New faces in local politics

New village clerk one of many Filipinos moving into office | PAGE 6
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Filipino influence on the rise

Morton Grove's Ed Ramos begins quest for Filipinos to get politically active

BY RICK KAMBIC
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The annual AdoboFest in Morton Grove's St. Paul Woods Forest Preserve saw its usual Filipino foods, crafts and songs this weekend, but political awareness has also become a rising theme in recent years.

A group of prominent figures slowly made their way through the Sept. 29 festival and encouraged patrons to take control of their futures by enjoying America's freedoms. For Morton Grove Village Clerk Ed Ramos, elections are now his job. The 71-year-old retired accountant has seen the times change and wants his fellow immigrants to embrace their right to vote now that society is friendlier than when he arrived in 1969.

"Things were different then. There was a lot of discrimination," Ramos said. "You had to present yourself well and be confident. Luckily, the Philippines was the only country to teach English from kindergarten through college. That's where other Asian immigrants had problems. I had an accent that didn't mean a thing, but was otherwise very fluent."

Ramos immigrated and naturalized under then-President Lyndon Johnson's "Third Preference" initiative, which targeted skilled professionals like nurses, engineers and accountants who could be valuable to American employers.

United Airlines took an interest in Ramos' number crunching and employed him from 1969 until his retirement in 1994. Ramos lived in Chicago at first but moved to Morton Grove six years into his new career.

Ramos came from a wealthy family in the Philippines, but luxury wasn't for him. He applied in Johnson's program so he could experience a new lifestyle in a different culture.

Though Ramos registered to vote as soon as he legally could, he suppressed the urge run for office until he was retired, with unlimited free time. Meanwhile, Ramos said he was hooked on reading books and news articles on American politics.

"It's only natural to want to say or control over what happens around you," Ramos said.

In 2011, Ramos' good friend David Calimag became outraged over a then-controversial decision to build a new library in Morton Grove.

Both were intimidated by the predominately white political system, but Calimag decided to run for the library's Board of Trustees and the two Filipinos strategized a campaign, which involved joining a coalition of candidates known as B-PAC.

After the slate swept the election and assumed a majority of the library board, putting a stop to the multi-million dollar construction project, Ramos felt empowered.

Only one other Filipino-American resident has ever run for public office in Morton Grove, and that was Al Bascos, who was a trustee candidate on the 1997 First Party slate that opposed Dan Staechmann's Community Party slate and an Act-Now Party slate. It was a highly contested election and Bascos did not win a seat.

Just one year after Calimag became the first Filipino to take office in Morton Grove, Ramos decided to act on his long-lived desire.

"We started seeing Ed shortly after Dave Calimag's group took steam," said Morton Grove Mayor Dan DiMaria, who represents the Action Party. "He became a regular with us after Calimag won."

Ramos applied to be the Action Party's 2013 candidate for village clerk and was slated on the ballot more than 10 other candidates.

"Clerk is a less contentious position, and I knew I could better work toward registering immigrants after gaining experience running the actual elections," Ramos said.

Throughout Calimag's campaign, his own campaign, and since taking office in May, Ramos has been working toward getting fellow Filipinos registered to vote.

"You have to be careful when you talk politics to these people," Ramos said. "I tell them it's their duty to make educated votes, but a lot of them say they have a good home and loving family and that's good enough for them."

Some of the resistance, he said, comes from 300 years under Spanish rule before the United States took over and imposed cultural anomalies like Thanksgiving, New Years and Labor Day.

"I sometimes feel like Filipinos don't know what they're supposed to want," Ramos said.

Ramos said he's helped register more than 300 Filipinos in Morton Grove and surrounding towns.

Right next door, Jerry Clarito was elected to the Skokie Park Board of Commissioners in 2005 and again in 2011. Clarito is also trying to get Filipinos registered to vote and shares some of Ramos' sentiments.

"There was a 14-year dictatorship in the Philippines not too long ago, so there's still a sour taste in some of the recent immigrants' mouths," Clarito said. "That is true of Cambodia and many other Southeastern Asian countries that had militant 'democratic' governments."

While Ramos helped found the Fil-Am Association of Morton Grove to help promote civic needs and wants, Clarito helped start an annual event called "Rock the Balut." The event mocks typical "rock the vote" or "rock the ballot" but instead centers around the ethnic tradition of eating boiled duck embryos out of eggs.

"In my experiences, the many uncontested suburban races have led to voter complacency, especially among immigrants," Clarito said. "Having a cultural attraction opens the door for us to encourage naturalized Filipinos to take advantage of their rights."

The efforts of Calimag, Ramos and Clarito have made inroads with modern politics, as DiMaria left his son's birthday party to visit the Sept. 29 festival.

"About 28 percent of Morton Grove's population is of Asian descent, mostly from the Philippines," DiMaria told the crowd. "That means one in four residents on our commissions and boards needs to be Asian. Please call Village Hall and leave me a message if you're interested, because your needs are my needs."

Ramos, who works with DiMaria regularly, said the visit was not a political favor and the call for change was sincere.

"Dan (DiMaria) is a smart politician and he sees the numbers rising," Ramos said. "He needs the votes. I'm still an outsider, to an extent, but as more Filipinos register to vote, the better he looks standing next to me or Dave (Calimag)."

Other Filipinos of note who attended the Sept. 29 festival included Anthony Armada, president of Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, Leo Herrera-Lim, consul general for Chicago's Filipino Consulate, and Cook County Circuit Court Judge Jessica O'Brien, who was born in Cebu City before traveling Europe and settling down in Chicago.

"Ed (Ramos) has done a lot for the Filipino community, especially in Morton Grove," Armada said. "It's no wonder he got elected."
Taste of Niles moved to March

Sister Cities reform took longer than expected

BY RICK KAMBIC
rkambic@pioneernews.com

A politically forced restructuring of the Niles Sister Cities organization has led to a postponement of the annual International Taste of Niles festival.

The fest is normally held in November at White Eagle Banquets, and it offers foods from the four countries that Niles has formal sister city agreements with. The event is the organization’s main fundraiser that pays for trips to those countries and for the hosting of representatives who travel to Niles from Europe.

Niles has been sister cities with Pisa, Italy since 1991, Leipizig, Germany since 2000, Limanowa, Poland since 2001 and Limanowa, Poland since 2000. Those cities were chosen based on Niles’ demographics, and such agreements allow for cultural exploration and business partnerships.

But the Niles fundraiser is being rescheduled for late March because a political faction on the Village Board last year pushed for a clear separation of the NUes Sister Cities organization, which was originally created to promote economic development in the village.

Mike Zimmerman from Amici Restaurant serves up pasta to people attending the Taste of Niles in March. The next Taste is being pushed back from the end of 2013 until March of 2014. (SUN-TIMES MEDIA FILES)

The mayor previously appointed sister city directors, but now those director slots will be tiered and the group will approve candidates for each country’s director position as the terms expire.

New directors include Sue Wilsey representing Ireland, Rev. Chris Keres and Tom Kanelos jointly representing Greece, Vince Gemuhi representing Italy and Kristina Kodak representing Poland.

Wilsey is the director of marketing at the Niles Public Library, while Kanelos chairs Niles’ zoning board, Gemuhi is a deputy chief for the Niles police department and Kodak owns the local Edgwood Gardens floral shop along Milwaukee Avenue.

“We got our 501c(3) status reinstated this spring, and our paperwork is maintained by our secretary Cooky Kraus and stored at her house,” Alpogianis said.

With a lot of new involvement, Alpogianis said he doesn’t want to stumble into the well-regarded festival and struggle to compete with other year-end fundraisers. Waiting until late March, he said, will allow the new group to get on its feet and attract more visitors.

In addition to reforming the group, Alpogianis said they are also working toward getting two new sister cities: one for Niles’ Korean population and another for the German residents.

“Niles was settled by a German man named Christian Ebinger,” Alpogianis said. “We still have a small German population that deserves to be connected to Ebinger’s accomplishment.”

Alpogianis said the Korean population has been steadily rising for several years, and that community holds its own cultural festival.

“If they’re a large enough group to organize their own functions, then they deserve to be included in our village-wide celebrations,” Alpogianis said.

The names of prospective sister cities for Germany and Korea will be announced in the coming weeks, and a process will be formed for how to narrow those cities down—which will include reaching out to officials of the prospective towns.
Morton Grove hires new firefighter, promotes two others

BY RICK KAMBIK
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Joe Keenan wasn't a glimmer in his mother's eye when a fire sparked in her house and the family had to rush out. She was just a teenager at the time, but the long-standing story was in the back of Keenan's mind when he decided to become a firefighter.

Tuesday, Sept. 24 was Keenan's first day on the job as Morton Grove's newest firefighter. His hiring stems from the retirement of District Chief Robert Hohs and a series of promotions that led to an entry-level opening.

Keenan completed the Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy on his own dime, something that caught Fire Chief Tom Friel's attention.

"Joe comes very highly recommended," Fire Chief Tom Friel said. "Completing NIPSTA training at the age of 26 is very impressive, and even more impressive is that he was accepted into the program without the backing of a fire department. That's very rare, and quite expensive."

Keenan enrolled at the Glenview-based academy after playing baseball and hockey at Loyola Academy and playing rugby at Marquette University en route to graduating with a degree in criminology.

"The exams and interviews are tough, but the biggest thing is to not fear rejection when applying for the actual jobs," Keenan said. "People obviously want the absolute best candidates to trust with their lives, plus you never know how high the bar was set by guys already on the waiting list."

Each municipality has a fire and police commission that issues its own tests and interviews before selecting a candidate from ranked eligibility lists. Keenan was atop the list when Hohs retired.

"Joe was also on Niles and Wilmette's eligibility lists," Friel said. "We definitely stole a good one away."

The job became available because Mike Mitchell, a 27-year veteran of the Morton Grove fire department, was chosen to succeed Hohs as district chief and firefighter Daniel Gallagher was promoted to lieutenant to replace Mitchell.

"Mike is a master carpenter, so he brings strong knowledge of how things are made and how to tactically approach situations," Friel said. "He's also a local boy that everyone is proud of."

Mitchell grew up in Morton Grove and attended Edison and Lincoln Schools before graduating from Niles West.

Gallagher first started as a paid on-call firefighter for the McHenry Township Fire Protection District in 1988. Even after becoming a full-time firefighter for Morton Grove in 1998, he remains on-call for McHenry even to this day.

"Paid on-call is a hybrid of a volunteer, but it's experience none-the-less and Dan has enough hours with McHenry to become a captain if he were a regular with them," Friel said. "He pretty much lives and breaths safety. That is valuable experience for us to have at our disposal."

Gallagher is also Morton Grove's lead fire investigator.
Morton Grove

Dempster closing sooner, new detour announced

Morton Grove officials have changed the detour and timeframe in which Dempster Street will be closed.

The repairs will occur a few days sooner, now scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 2, through Saturday, Oct. 12.

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

Morton Grove officials previously mentioned a detour that sends cars south onto Lincoln Avenue or North onto Beckwith Road. However, a detour going along bigger roads was announced on Sept. 23.

Vehicles traveling eastbound on Dempster Street will be diverted onto northbound Waukegan Road and then onto eastbound Golf Road. To reconnect to Dempster Street, signs will route travelers Southbound on Central Avenue.

Likewise, motorists traveling west on Dempster Street will be directed northbound onto Central, and then onto westbound Golf Road.

Dempster Street will remain open for access to side streets closer to the train tracks, but Morton Grove officials say barricades and traffic control officers will direct mainstream traffic to the detour.

Residents living on nearby side streets are 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

Man who heckled Daley arrested for bizarre behavior

A Chicago man who made headlines in 2011 for heckling former Mayor Richard M. Daley as he left office that year has been arrested for allegedly disturbing a Niles health club aerobics class with bizarre behavior.

Niles police said Janusz Kopycinski, 32, of 6943 W. Wellington Ave., was wearing military fatigues and holding the flame of a cigarette lighter under the palm of his hand as he stood in front of a women's aerobics class at XSport Fitness, 9210 N. Milwaukee Ave. on the evening of Sept. 25.

When the center's general manager confronted him, Kopycinski allegedly used a racial slur and formed his fingers into the shape of a gun. The general manager told police that Kopycinski then "pointed his hands at the members in the class and was alternating (his) hands back and forth as if rapidly shooting two handguns," according to reports.

When officers arrived at XSport, they reportedly found Kopycinski, who had a membership at the club, dancing in front of the class. He was immediately handcuffed. He allegedly told police that he had been holding the cigarette lighter to his hand because he wanted to make sure he still had "the power."

Kopycinski was charged with disorderly conduct and released on bond. His membership to XSport was terminated by management.

In May 2011, police accused Kopycinski of yelling an obscenity at Daley as he left City Hall for the last time. Officers chased Kopycinski as he ran away and as he was arrested, one of the officers was grazed by a passing CTA bus, slightly injuring him.
The following incidents were listed in the official reports of the Niles and Morton Grove police departments. Readers are reminded that an arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

**MORTON GROVE**

**DISORDERLY CONDUCT**
Charles Maynor, 40, of Morton Grove, was charged Sept. 19 with disorderly conduct and criminal damage to property after allegedly picking up a Korea Times newspaper dispenser and slamming it to the ground near the intersection of Dempster Street and Austin Avenue. Police say the newsstand was damaged and the commotion disturbed the peace. Maynor told police his finger became stuck when he attempted to retrieve his change and the box fell over during his struggle. He is scheduled in court Oct. 3.

**DUI**
Carol Meyer, 45, of Morton Grove, was charged Sept. 22 with driving under the influence. She is scheduled in court Oct. 18.

**EXCESSIVE SPEEDING**
Zain Siddiqui, 19, of Niles, was charged Sept. 22 with speeding in excess of 40 miles per hour over the speed limit. Police say Siddiqui was driving his Kawasaki motorcycle past Notre Dame College Prep when he was pulled over. Kawasaki allegedly told officers that he was late to work. Siddiqui is scheduled in court Oct. 22.

**POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA**
Brian Kacynski, 19, of Morton Grove, was charged Sept. 19 with possession of marijuana after a resident reported a suspicious vehicle to police. Officers found Kacynski standing outside his car and allegedly found marijuana in his pockets and inside his car after he allegedly consented to a search. Kacynski is scheduled in court Oct. 22.

**UNDERAGE DRINKING**
Matthew Acosta, 19, of St. Charles, was charged Sept. 23 with underage drinking and zero tolerance after being stopped on Dempster Street near Waukegan Road. Police say Acosta passed a field sobriety test and consented to a breathalyzer test, in which his blood alcohol content was .029. Police say he was not driving under the influence but his BAC warranted an underage drinking charge. He is scheduled in court Oct. 29.

**NILES**

**BATTERY**
Mirjana Lukac, 42, of 7911 Noridica Ave., Niles, was charged with domestic battery on Sept. 23. According to police, a 16-year-old girl accused Lukac of slapping and punching her in the face and striking her with a meat cleaver inside their apartment the night before. The teen told police that after Lukac’s boyfriend intervened and took the meat cleaver away, Lukac continued to slap and punch her several more times, causing bruises to her forehead, police said. The Department of Child and Family Services was contacted.

**UNDERAGE DRINKING**
Zain Siddiqui, 19, of Niles, was charged Sept. 23 with underage drinking and zero tolerance after being stopped on Dempster Street near Waukegan Road. Police say Acosta passed a field sobriety test and consented to a breathalyzer test, in which his blood alcohol content was .029. Police say he was not driving under the influence but his BAC warranted an underage drinking charge. He is scheduled in court Oct. 29.

**RETAIL THEFT**
Robert Williams, 57, of 3456 W. Franklin Ave., Chicago, was charged with retail theft on Sept. 19 after he allegedly stole 17 cans of baby formula valued at $327.82 from a store on the 6100 block of Touhy Avenue. He has an Oct. 9 court date.

**DUI**
Volodymyr Kravchuk, 50, of 8894 W. Knight Ave., unincorporated Maine Township, was charged with retail theft on Sept. 23 after he allegedly stole a drill head valued at $24.75 from a store on the 8600 block of Dempster Street. He has an Oct. 9 court date.

**UNDERAGE DRINKING**
Richard Anderson, 26, of 144 E. Kathleen Drive, Park Ridge, was charged with driving under the influence but his BAC warranted an underage drinking charge. He is scheduled in court Oct. 9.

**THEFT**
Multiple tools were stolen from a car parked along the 9400 block of Oliphant Avenue sometime on or before Sept. 24.

An unlocked bike was stolen from outside a business in the 5700 block of Dempster Street sometime on or before Sept. 19.

**Police Report**

**THEFT**
Multiple tools were stolen from a car parked along the 9400 block of Oliphant Avenue sometime on or before Sept. 24.

An unlocked bike was stolen from outside a business in the 5700 block of Dempster Street sometime on or before Sept. 19.

**Police Blotter**

**THEFT**
Multiple tools were stolen from a car parked along the 9400 block of Oliphant Avenue sometime on or before Sept. 24.

An unlocked bike was stolen from outside a business in the 5700 block of Dempster Street sometime on or before Sept. 19.
Fear City giving back to Niles North, Niles West

Haunted house giving discounts to students, donations to foundation

BY RICK KAMBC
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The owners of Fear City Haunted House say they're committed to being in Morton Grove long-term, and supporting the local schools is one step toward proving they mean it.

Starting this year, Fear City will donate a portion of its ticket sales to the D219 Education Foundation, which is a volunteer organization that gives grants to financially-challenged students in Niles Township High School District 219.

For the first six shows, Friday Oct. 4 through Sunday Oct. 13, patrons with a valid school ID or who preregister online using a promo code "D219" will get $5 off their tickets. Of the remaining $20, Fear City will donate $4 of each ticket to the school foundation.

"Our goal is to attract another 1,000-plus visitors to Fear City, especially when it's right in our backyard with Niles West right down the street," said Alyse Burman, a member of the foundation's board of directors.

Guidance counselors at the high schools can write proposals to the foundation on behalf of students, helping them pay for supplies, refurbished computers, AP testing costs, college application fees and college visits. The foundation also provides general college scholarships.

Burman said the names of students are never passed along. The board of directors make decisions based on applications and counselors' input.

Matthew Robins, the foundation's president, said a large chunk of money goes toward the school's mandatory graphing calculators, which cost $100.

"I'm an alum of Niles North and I had a good experience, but now it's a different animal," Robins said. "It's more than reading, writing and arithmetic. There's a lot of financial needs on both the schools and the families, and we want the kids to focus only on doing good work and enjoying these years."

For Fear City, co-owner Charles Grendys said there's a pride factor that goes both ways. "You're nobody until a school recognizes you," Grendys said. "I share the town with a lot of families who send their kids to the high schools and fellow businesses who hire kids out of high school. People take pride in their local high schools and now we at Fear City are helping fuel that pride by keeping kids focused on academics."

Grendys also said he wants his business in a reputable town, but towns are only reputable if those people work toward high standards. "It's now my job as a part of this community to work toward the common goal everyone else has," Grendys said. "Quality education is always the common goal. More times than not, people move somewhere like Morton Grove for the good schools."

Fear City primarily attracts high school students, but Grendys said his customers come from all over Chicago and his charity to District 219 is no ploy.

"I chose Morton Grove because it's close to the city, but can still draw suburban teens," Grendys said. "This is my 'thank you' to our neighbors."

Fear City is starting its third Halloween season in two years; their lease began just before Halloween 2011. Grendys said the contract goes 10 years and he hopes to stay longer.

This year was also the first time Fear City reserved acting spots for aspiring high school students. Grendys said 10 spots were reserved for District 219 students and audition days were advertised, but a low turnout resulted in no serious commitments. Grendys said he will continue to offer the openings in future years.

As for the D219 Education Foundation, this marks yet another fundraiser for the successful organization. The foundation has given approximately $120,000 over its seven years of work. Last year, the foundation raised and granted $40,000.

One of its main fundraisers is the popular Pizza Wars. For the past three Januaries, a dozen pizzeras gathered in Niles West's auditorium and patrons paid to tour the tables and vote for the best pizza. All the food is donated, and more than $8,500 was raised this past January.

As Fear City Haunted House opens for the Halloween season, it offers discounted prices as part of a fundraiser for the D219 Education Foundation. JASON GLOSNIAI FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA
District 64 superintendent leaving in June

Board hires firm to find replacement

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
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A Libertyville-based consulting firm has been selected to help Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 in its search for a new superintendent following Philip Bender's surprise announcement last week that he plans to leave the district at the end of the school year.

The Board of Education, which met Saturday for a special meeting at Emerson Middle School, selected the firm of B&W.P. and Associates after hearing presentations from four search firms. The superintendent search will cost the district $13,900, plus additional costs for advertising the position and travel expenses, said Anthony Borrelli, District 64 board president.

"The board will sit down with B&W.P. to plot out the attributes that the board is looking for, as well as coordinating the community outreach that will be necessary to fulfill the candidate profile," Borrelli said.

District 64 on Sept. 25 announced that Bender, who joined District 64 during the summer of 2010, is stepping down from his position in July 2014.

"I'm still looking to stay in the superintendent," Bender said. "I'm looking at other options. I want to do work in other districts and hopefully I'll find a place that is a better fit."

When asked if District 64 had not been a good fit for him, Bender replied, "it's been fine," adding that he believes goals that he had set upon arriving in the district — particularly in the area of facilities upgrades — have been accomplished.

"I'm ready to take on new and exciting adventures," he said. "Change never hurts anybody. I'm looking at other options."

Bender said he is also looking at possibly pursuing collegiate work, as he previously taught graduate-level classes at universities in Indiana. He plans to continue living in Park Ridge, he added.

In a statement released by District 64, Bender was quoted as saying, "I am proud of what we have accomplished in the past few years in District 64. The district is well-positioned to keep improving how we educate kids, including meeting the challenges posed by the new Common Core curriculum. And with the district in sound financial shape and with plans underway to upgrade and maintain our schools, I am ready to move on to new challenges."

Borrelli said the school board became aware of Bender's plans to possibly leave his position shortly after the school year began. Bender began talking about his future during a closed session meeting, Borrelli said.

"I think he's looking beyond what Park Ridge can offer, he's looking to challenge himself — that's his own words as he told it to us," Borrelli stated. "He knows what it takes to be a good educator and he's certainly put the right people in place to achieve that end."

The board president credited Bender's hiring of new principals and Emerson Middle Schools. He also praised Bender for the recent push in the evaluation of facilities, subsequent upgrades, and the hiring of a new facilities manager.

"He laid the road map out," Borrelli said. "We now have a plan and vision and we have to continue with the road map he laid out."

School Board Vice President Scott Zimmerman noted that the board had not conducted an evaluation of Bender or voted to extend his contract, which is set to expire July 30, 2014, but added that he did not believe this was a factor in Bender's decision to leave.

The Board of Education hopes to have a new superintendent in place at the time of Bender's departure.

Prior to joining District 64, Bender was superintendent of New Prairie United School Corp., a rural K-12 district in New Carlisle, Ind.
Maine East celebrating homecoming with rally and fireworks

Maine East High School will crown its homecoming queen and king this Thursday, Oct. 3, during the annual firelight rally at the Park Ridge school.

The crowning will take place after the 6:30 p.m. soccer game in the stadium at 2601 W. Dempster St. and will also feature a fireworks show.

That same day, there will be student judging of decorated pumpkins in the cafeteria, a dodgeball tournament, and one hour of "Zumba groove dance" in the dance studio.

This year's homecoming theme is centered around neon. Students have been busy creating neon spirit signs and decorating hallways in preparation for the event.

On Friday, a homecoming parade at the campus will take place between the JV and varsity football game. There will also be a pasta dinner hosted by the Fine Arts Boosters prior to the games at 5:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door for $5.

CHICAGO

Author of Iannelli biography appearing in Hyde Park


The event will take place at 2 p.m., beginning with a lecture by Chicago historian Tim Samuelson on Iannelli and his involvement in the design and ornamentation of St. Thomas the Apostle's current church and school. A book signing by David Jameson will follow.

PARK RIDGE

Kalo Foundation hosts scarecrow contest in Park Ridge

The Kalo Foundation of Park Ridge is hosting a scarecrow decorating contest and a chance to decorate the yard around Iannelli Studios Heritage Center through Halloween.

For $10, wooden forms will be provided that can be taken home and dressed, painted and turned into one-of-a-kind scarecrows. Scarecrows should be returned to the Heritage Center, 255 N. Northwest Highway, by 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5.

Residents of Summit Uptown will judge the submissions and awards will be presented during the Homegrown Horrorfest on Sunday, Oct. 27 at Iannelli Studios.

A scarecrow registration form can be found through the Kalo Foundation's website, www.kalofoundation.org. For more information call Judy Bacon at (847) 975-6776.

PARK RIDGE

Timmer Memorial Walk for cancer research held this weekend

The second annual Barbara J. Timmer Memorial Walk for the Leukemia Research Foundation will take place Saturday, Oct. 5 in Park Ridge.

Registration begins at 10 a.m. at the Park Ridge County Club, 636 N. Prospect Ave. The walk will follow at 10:30 a.m., led by members of the Timmer family and friends through Park Ridge.

Lunch will follow at 11:30 a.m. and include a raffle.

Registration is $50 per participant and will include a glow-in-the-dark T-shirt, a glow accessory and access to the post-race party featuring refreshments, a deejay, awards, and mini messages from Vive Therapeutic Massage in Park Ridge.

Proceeds from the race will be used for upgrades to MSW's technology program, the school said.

Registration for the 5K walk is open to MSW families and the public. Students in grades two and under can participate for free with a registered adult.

The deadline to register is Thursday, Oct. 3 at midnight. To do so, visit www.runrace.net/findarace.php?id=132781L2&tab=a3 and include a raffle.

Proceeds from the race will be used for upgrades to MSW's technology program, the school said.

Registration for the 5K walk is open to MSW families and the public. Students in grades two and under can participate for free with a registered adult.

The deadline to register is Thursday, Oct. 3 at midnight. To do so, visit www.runrace.net/findarace.php?id=132781L2&tab=a3 or call the school at (847) 825-2500.

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HELP SQUAD

Have you been burned by bad customer service?
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The Help Squad is standing by

Sun-Times Media Local's newest weekly column is gearing up to provide consumer tips and stories that help readers solve issues with businesses.

To submit a complaint for consideration, email HelpSquad@PioneerLocal.com in as much detail as possible. Be sure to include the dates, names and contact information of the people you’ve contacted. Please do not submit electronic attachments of receipts or documentation.

We cannot respond to every submission, but for those we can, the Help Squad will do our best to see that you get satisfaction.

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.
Get up and go

Your guide to the weekend and beyond

Every Thursday
Support for Legislation
HJRCA 33/SJRCA 40

Legislation (HJRCA 33/SJRCA 40) is pending in Springfield for a constitutional amendment on a fair tax allowing for higher rates on higher incomes and lower rates on lower incomes. The League of Women Voters of Illinois (LWVIL) supports this plan, rather than the regressive flat tax now imposed in Illinois.

LWVIL believes this amendment will bring fairness to Illinois’ tax code, helping Illinois’ middle-class families. It will help Illinois protect key priorities, such as education, public safety, health care, and human services. These vital services have been woefully shortchanged in recent years because of Illinois’ systemic budget problems; the result of an out-of-date tax code which overburdens middle class taxpayers.

The legislation embodies another important principle: citizen participation. If adopted by the General Assembly, this referendum would ask Illinois voters if they want to amend the 1970 Illinois Constitution, which currently states that personal income tax must be non-graduated (flat). Passing this amendment will provide Illinois voters the chance to play a role in this process.

The LWVIL knows it’s time for long-term budget solutions to help rebuild Illinois’ economy and provide sustained support to programs and services that people need. Adoption of a fair tax achieves these goals.

The League of Women Voters of Glenview can point individuals to more information on the Fair Tax Amendment or arrange for presentations to groups. Please contact the League of Women Voters of Glenview at lwvg4@hotmail.com.

Joan Ziegler, president
League of Women Voters of Glenview

Are videos a gateway to learning?

Think about school this way: Instead of learning the topic with 30 other kids and one teacher, then practicing the concepts in so-called homework, you watch a Khan Academy video at home at your own pace, repeatedly, until you’ve got it. That’s the homework. At school, you practice your new skills with your classmates and teacher.

BY RANDY BLASER

Consider this: The way teachers taught my mother in the 1940s and 1950s is pretty much the way they taught me in the 1960s and 1970s, and that’s not much different from how they taught my children in the 1990s and now, and how my daughter is teaching today.

Maybe that Industrial Revolution model, where the school is akin to a mini-factory with bells ringing to indicate when it is time to change shifts, er, subjects, just doesn’t work anymore. Maybe we need to overhaul the whole thing.

Enter “60 Minutes,” Salman Khan and Bill Gates.

One Sunday evening, I tuned my car radio to the local CBS affiliate to catch “60 Minutes.” I was just in time to hear about Salman Khan and the Khan Academy.

Salman Khan is a graduate of MIT and Harvard. When his young cousin was having trouble with math in 2004, he created some tutorials for her. She improved so much in school that other relatives wanted Khan’s help. He decided that creating YouTube videos would be an efficient way to distribute the material. The training became so popular he decided to quit his job and focus on making the videos.

Bill Gates soon found out about it, and he thinks this is the future of education. And being Bill Gates, he put his money behind it.

Khan now has a website called Khan Academy, and for you parents out there with students struggling in math or science, you might want to check it out.

Think about school this way: Instead of learning the topic with 30 other kids and one teacher, then practicing the concepts in so-called homework, you watch a Khan Academy video at home at your own pace, repeatedly, until you’ve got it. That’s the homework.

At school, you practice your new skills with your classmates and teacher.

It’s kind of how the school sports teams do it. Th football coach doesn’t give a lecture on the playbook and then send the team home to practice blocking and tackling. They practice blocking right there, and keep doing it until they are good at it.

If Gates thinks it will work, then I’m on board.
Let's celebrate the oodles of noodles

How are you going to spend Oct. 17? Working? Don't you get that day off? It's National Pasta Day. And if anything on earth is worth celebrating, it's pasta.

There's rotini, fusilli, rigatoni, lasagna, tortellini, penne, conchiglie — 600 different shapes of pasta. All of them delicious.

And let's settle something right away: Pasta was not originally brought to Italy by Marco Polo from China. The ancient Romans had pasta. And in 1279 A.D. an Italian, Ponzio Bastogne, bequeathed a storage bin of macaroni in his will. Marco Polo was still vacationing in Asia that year.

For me, the celebration of pasta is a year-round activity and a tradition. The people who came to this country from Italy, such as my grandfather, came because they didn't want to be poor any more and didn't want their children to be poor. They brought precious little with them. But one thing they brought was certain foods and ways to prepare them.

And the greatest of these was pasta. (Pasta is the Italian word for dough.) Fancy restaurants try to turn pasta into cuisine — pasta and frog lips in a white cream sauce with truffles. But real pasta isn't cuisine. It's food. Food for hungry regular people.

There are, indeed, many ways to prepare pasta. But in honor of National Pasta Day, let's be as plain, as down to earth, as the food we are celebrating.

The first thing that comes to mind when we think of pasta is — of course — spaghetti. Spaghetti with a red sauce (or gravy). And it's best served with meatballs or sausage.

Fine dining critics look down their nose at spaghetti. Spaghetti isn't subtle, merely delicious. It's part of the fun of being a critic, telling people what they like is not good and shaming them into liking what you like instead.

But you love spaghetti. I know you do. You have loved spaghetti since you were a very small child. It's all right. I not only understand, I completely agree with you. It's even patriotic to like spaghetti.

You know who first brought pasta to the United States? Thomas Jefferson in 1789. Spaghetti (pasta) is red white and blue. Preferably red.

Cuisine comes and goes, but food remains. And pasta is food at its best. It endures. It abides.

Happy National Pasta Day. You know very well how to celebrate it. Meatballs or sausage?
1422 W. Garden St., Park Ridge

House size: 1,670 square feet
Lot size: 7,500 square feet
Year built: 1949
Bedrooms: 3
Bathrooms: 2.5
Garage: One-car attached
Property tax: $10,593.07 (2012)
Exterior: Brick
School districts: Park Ridge Consolidated Community School District 64 and Maine Township High School District 207

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PROPERTY TRANSFERS

BY WRAPRPORTS NEWS SERVICE

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

|

Niles

7544 Howard St, Vincent Storm to Michael J Guinne for $100,000 on Aug. 12

6815 N Milwaukee Ave, #602: John M GUINANE for $100,000 on Aug. 8

6147 N Chestore Ave: Josephine Bellazzi-Vussif Denka for $225,000 on Aug. 13

Harwood Heights

7525 W Lawrence Ave, #503: Enrique Gonzalez to James Jones for $105,000 on Aug. 13

Park Ridge

1424 Oakton St, Thomas F Welsh and Cheryl L Welsh to Cristo Paraskevas and Ayse E Tulek for $148,000 on Aug. 13

Morton Grove

8630 Waukegan Road, #602: John Michael J GUINANE for $100,000 on Aug. 12

Glenview

234 Lincoln St, Linda L Immot Trust, Linda L Immot Trust and Lee Monti Linda Trust to Joseph Aaam and Katie Aaam for $380,000 on Aug. 16

Lincolnwood

4601 W Touhy Ave, #310: Melvin A Kramer and Helene Friedman to Zomila Zomala and Itis Hussein for $150,000 on Aug. 13

Pioneer Press Mortgage Guide

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Highland Enterprises LLC for $195,000 on Aug. 14

9324 Kilbourn Ave, Jesse Kyung Kim and Hyung Kim to Lukasz Sikora for $250,000 on Aug. 13

8314 Kenneth Ave, Edna Holmes to Benjamin Hernandez and Laura Hernandez for $250,000 on Aug. 13

8046 Keeler Ave, Myra Borovik Trust and C Borovik Myron Trust to Fawad Ahmadi for $300,000 on Aug. 13

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

Issues in the News
9:30 a.m.: The open discussion group covers a range of topics, from local to global. Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles. Call 269-683-9380.

SATURDAY, OCT. 5
Health & Fitness Expo
9 a.m.: Free health screenings, information and flu shots given by Meijer. No appointments needed. Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles. Call 269-683-9380.

MONDAY, OCT. 7
Rules of the Road
1 p.m.: Take a refresher course to prepare for the driving test. Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles. Call 269-683-9380.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9
Blood Pressure Screening
9 a.m.: Walk-ins welcome. Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles. Call 269-683-9380.

Computer Interest Group
1:30 p.m.: Share your passion for computers. Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles. Call 269-683-9380.

TUESDAY, OCT. 15
Park Board of Commissioners
6 p.m.: Meets on the third Tuesday of each month. Howard Leisure Center, 6676 W. Howard St., Niles.

HAPPENING NEARBY
THURSDAY, OCT. 3
Little Tykes 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.

Book Discussion
1 p.m.: This group meets on the first Thursday of each month. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge.

Travel Film: Japan and Singapore
2 p.m.: Journey through the exotic cultures and delectable foods of East Asia today. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

FRIDAY, OCT. 4
Autism Pivotal Response Treatment: One-Day Training
8 a.m.: internationally-renowned autism experts Dr. Robert Koegel and Dr. Lynn Koegel will present a one-day training on research-based solutions to autism spectrum disorders. The Chicago Area Pivotal Response Treatment Conference is designed for educators, parents and clinicians who seek research-based answers to autism spectrum disorders. The conference is co-sponsored by the Chicago Children’s Clinic. www.autismpirthelp.com. DoubleTree Hotel North Shore, 9599 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. $195.

Toddler Science
9:30 a.m.: Toddlers will get to do a different science project every month. For ages 18 months to 3 years old. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is suggested. A second session is scheduled at 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Non-Fiction Book Discussion
10 a.m.: This month the group will discuss Matthew Algeo’s “Harry Truman’s Excellent Adventure,” which takes a look at Harry and Bess Truman’s post-presidential road trip. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

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 847-663-3072.

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.

Bunko Parties
12:15 p.m.: Bunko and lunch will be held from 12:15 to 2:45 p.m. for men and women and Bunko and dinner will be held from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. for women. Meal includes a choice of a hot beef sandwich or cold veggie wrap, chips, dessert, coffee and tea. Wine, beer and soda will be available for purchase. Proceeds benefit the Center of Concern. South Park Recreation Center, 833 Talcott Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-823-8755. $15.

Knitting for All Ages
3:30 p.m.: Learn the basics of knitting or crochet, or brush up on your skills. No registration required. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-677-5277.

SATURDAY, OCT. 5
Morton Grove Farmers Market
8 a.m.: All items are home-grown, handmade or vendor-created from locally-owned operations. Market Grounds, 8200 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-750-6436.

Glenview Farmers Market
8 a.m.: Find fresh produce, snacks, art and more. Live music is typically played at this market, held every Saturday. Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview. Free.

Fall Classic
8 a.m.: Put your golfing skills to the test by participating in the Superintendent’s Revenge Tournament. Price of admission includes green fee, golf cart, snacks and prizes. Glenview Park Golf Club, 800 Shermer Road, Glenview. Call 847-724-0250. $75.

PowerPoint 2007 Basics
10 a.m.: Learn the basics of the program. Attendees must have a firm understanding of mouse usage and basic computer commands. Registration is required. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-720-3234.

The Meaning and Value of Dreams
10 a.m.: Tom Barrett, a psychoanalyst at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology, will discuss how dreams have been understood over time, psychoanalytically interpreting how the process of dreaming plays in sleep patterns and in our lives. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

ACT Prep Test
Noon: College Nannies and Tutors of Glenview guide up to 40 participants through a practice test. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview.

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. Call 847-965-4220.

Free Trail Walk at The Grove
2 p.m.: Guided trail walks are ideal for families and individuals interested in nature. The Grove, 420 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview. Call 847-299-6096.

Luke and Andrea Bartolomeo: Piano Duo
7:30 p.m.: The program will include George Gershwin’s “Rhapsody in Blue,” as well as works by Brahms, Dvorak and others. St. Paul’s Church, 320 S. Washington St., Park Ridge.

SUNDAY, OCT. 6
19th Annual OLPH Phun Run 5K Run and Walk
8 a.m.: The 5K course is a timed event that will begin at the circle drive of the Glenview Library, closest to Jackman Park, and will continue on through the neighborhood of Swanwood, with the finish line back at the park. To register for the race, visit http://olphhrun.org. Proceeds benefit the Needy Family Fund. Jackman Park Gazebo, Lehigh Avenue and Prairie Street, Glenview. $25-30.

Guided Tree Walk in Mallinckrodt Park
9 a.m.: Join friends and neighbors for a guided tree walk in Mallinckrodt Park and learn to identify a variety of trees that thrive in northern Illinois. Refreshments to follow. Dogs on leashes are welcome. Mallinckrodt Park, 1960 Elmwood Ave., Wilmette.

Bears Sunday
11:30 a.m.: Park Ridge VFW, 10 W. Higgins Road, Park Ridge. Call 847-825-4588.

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.
Lyric Opera Profile: 'Madama Butterfly'
2 p.m.: David Blecher discusses Giacomo Puccini’s most popular opera about Cio-Cio-San, a geisha, who marries the callous American naval officer B. F. Pinkerton. They share a few nights together but he sails away, leaving her to birth and raise their son on her own. But three years later, Pinkerton returns with an American wife. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-940-4010.

Chicago Philharmonic Chamber Players: Great Russian Romance

Story Time for 4s & 5s

Film: 'Robot and Frank'
11:30 a.m.: This 2012 film stars Frank Langella, Susan Sarandon and Peter Sarsgaard in the story of an aging jewel thief whose son buys him a domestic robot. 89 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

AARP Driver Safety Class
1 p.m.: This refresher course on road safety can qualify drivers for an insurance discount. Open to persons 55 years of age or older. This is a two-part class, the second part will take place on Oct. 10. Norwood Park Senior Center, 5801 N. Natoma Ave., Chicago. Call 773-775-6071. $12-$14.

Feature Film: 'The Great Gatsby'
2 p.m.: This classic tells the story of a Midwesterner moving to New York City during an era of loosening morals, jazz music and bootleg kings. It stars Leonardo DiCaprio and Carey Mulligan, 142 minutes. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-825-3123.

Genealogy Boot Camp: Searching the Census
7 p.m.: This course is the second of a four-week Genealogy Boot Camp in which attendees will learn how to start researching their family history. Registration required. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

Map Driver Safely Class
1 p.m.: This refresher course on road safety can qualify drivers for an insurance discount. Open to persons 55 years of age or older. This is a two-part class, the second part will take place on Oct. 10. Norwood Park Senior Center, 5801 N. Natoma Ave., Chicago. Call 773-775-6071. $12-$14.

Minecraft Unplugged
4 p.m.: Minecraft fans can take their obsession offline and into real life by creating all things Minecraft including pickaxes and creeper T-shirts. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Evening Book Discussion
7 p.m.: This month the group will be discussing Nick Hornby’s “High Fidelity.” Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.
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Call us at: 312-321-3021
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Niles-Herald-Spectator • Community Connect

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

1 Water heater
Address: 7519 N. Neva Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 20
Permit cost: $40
Construction cost: $1,000

2 Fence
Address: 7614 N. Nora Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 19
Permit cost: $25
Construction cost: $1,500

3 Roof (commercial and residential)
Address: 6943 W. Fargo Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 18
Permit cost: $63
Construction cost: $6,860

4 Fence
Address: 7814 N. Nora Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 21
Permit cost: $25
Construction cost: $600

5 Fence
Address: 7811 N. Octavia Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 20
Permit cost: $25
Construction cost: $80

6 Roof (commercial and residential)
Address: 8042 N. Oconto Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 19
Permit cost: $94
Construction cost: $6,000

7 Flood control
Address: 6828 W. Oakton Court, Niles
Issue date: June 18
Permit cost: $80
Construction cost: $7,500

8 Flood control
Address: 6907 W. Keeney St., Niles
Issue date: June 21
Permit cost: $80
Construction cost: $8,406

9 Water heater
Address: 8111 N. Odell Ave., Niles
Issue date: June 18
Permit cost: $40
Construction cost: $500

10 Alarm
Address: 6440 W. Howard St., Niles
Issue date: June 20
Permit cost: $188
Construction cost: $20,000
American Music World helps Niles musicians play new tunes

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
For Sun-Times Media | @isfudenkov

When customers step inside American Music World, a piano greets them at the entrance. Upright and Grand pianos stand back-to-back along the sales floor. Organs, keyboards and digital pianos occupy every free space in the large room where adult classes are held. And there are even more pianos further back, near the smaller rooms where children's lessons are held.

American Music World has been serving Niles and the surrounding suburbs since 1979. Even as technology changed, there have always been parents who wanted their children to learn how to play pianos. American Music World also offers music classes for children and adults alike. This helped to ensure steady customer traffic. And while the economic downturn has caused a drop in profits, the store has since rebounded - and it has been building on its success ever since.

American Music World was founded by Ray Fajmon. The first location opened in Forest Park, but it wasn't long before Fajmon established a second location in Niles to better serve customers from Chicago and its north and northwestern suburbs.

Bob Frazier has been working at the Niles location since 1988, when the store hired him to teach adult music classes. He has since become the location manager and the lead salesperson. He sees teaching and sales as an extension of his lifelong love of music — either way, he gets to pass his passion on to others.

"I want to make a difference in people's lives through music," said Frazier.

The Niles store offers a large variety of traditionally built upright and grand pianos. It's the only store in Cook County to sell Lowrey brand organs. American Music World offers more modern digital pianos and keyboards.

Most of American Music World's customers are parents who want to teach their children to learn to play pianos. American Music World offers private lessons for children and adults, as well as organ playing group lessons for seniors.

The Niles Herald-Spectator attended one of the organ lessons. In addition to showing how to play a particular piece, Frazier talked about its history and broke down the elements that made it work.

Frazier said that playing organs isn't just a good way to pass the time — they have health benefits, too. "Playing music lowers your blood pressure and makes your heartbeat slower," he said.

American Music World students participate in a number of events throughout the year.

"We do a number of concerts and recitals," said Frazier.

American Music World has survived through several economic downturns. Frazier said that while customer service and selection helped to attract customers, it was ultimately passion for music that kept the store going even in the worst economic times.

"We had a slowdown back in 2008, when the real estate [bubble] crashed," he said. "But we've recovered, because people still want music."

Many students at Bob Frazier's senior organ class at American Music World have been coming for years. Frazier approaches the lessons with humor, and the class comfortably jokes right back.

An upright piano at American Music World, 7727 N. Milwaukee Ave. in Niles. | IGOR STUDENKOV/FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA

Many students at Bob Frazier's senior organ class at American Music World have been coming for years. Frazier approaches the lessons with humor, and the class comfortably jokes right back.
Benefit brings music to kids of Philippines

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
For Sun-Times Media

Cabaret artist Ester Hana has never forgotten her roots. In 2000, she founded the Dalaguete Music Foundation to send money and instruments to the impoverished town in the Philippines where she grew up so that the children "who do not have the means to study music can have access to it," Hana said.

For the past two years, Hana has spent three weeks in Dalaguete every summer, running a free music camp for kids. "I teach them not only music," Hana explained. "I teach them English. I teach them our own language." She also provides backpacks and snacks.

For last summer's culminating event, her campers performed "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" for the people of the town. "We had only 14 days. We only had the clothes that I had sent them before," Hana related. "We didn't have a theater curtain. We didn't have props. I didn't mind doing it in the open. I just wanted the children to perform."

The musical was so well received that people from the municipal government requested that Hana restage the show during the Dalaguete Town Fiesta next February, marking the Feast of St. William of Aquitaine (Novenary Day).

In order to make that possible, Hana has organized a fundraising luncheon and show for the Dalaguete Music Foundation, Sunday, Oct. 6 at the Skokie Club restaurant.

The benefit will include lunch, performances by the Ester Hana Trio, the Danny Ayam Duo, Danny Ayam at the piano and guest singers. There will also be a silent auction, including such items as unique pieces of fine jewelry and cabaret performances by Hana.

Hana explained that they need to raise $3,000 in order to rent or purchase a good sound system, microphones and lights. They also need costumes, props and makeup for this larger production. "We're trying to be creative, but it's still not Egypt," Hana laughingly noted.

FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON/SHOW FOR DALAGUETE MUSIC FOUNDATION
Skokie Club, 4741 W. Main St., Skokie
11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 6
$50 per person; reservations required
(773) 262-6343; eclectic@mac.com
In the pink
Breast cancer awareness always in style

BY LYNN TAYLOR SCHWAAB
For Sun-Times Media

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. You can tell by all the pink in shops and online.
But breast cancer is still a major health issue. According to the American Cancer Society, one in eight women will develop invasive breast cancer. In 2013, some 39,620 women will die from breast cancer in the U.S., and about 232,340 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in U.S. women.

This annual campaign increases awareness of this devastating disease, raises funds for research to fight it, and offers information and support to those affected by breast cancer.

Pink is the official color of this October campaign. Many women, even men, don the color in different ways to show support for the fight against breast cancer. The days of the simple pink ribbon pinned to your clothes or the bright silicone bracelets have passed. There are now abundant, fashionable choices — from eternity rings to sunglasses to eye-catching bracelets and necklaces — that support the cause.

For some fabulous pink merchandise that supports Breast Cancer Awareness Month, check out two websites: ThinkPinkRibbon.com and PinkRibbonShop.com. They are excellent resources for stylish merchandise that aid the cause.

Many companies and organizations are promoting pink during October. Take the NFL — yes, that's the National Football League — for instance. You'll see players, coaches and staff members sporting pink socks, gloves, towels and hats. In fact, the NFL is one of the biggest supporters of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Personally, my son will be wearing his pink socks during his football games this month in honor of his grandma, my mother, who is a breast cancer survivor. Check out any Dick's Sporting Goods store or the NFL's website for information on pink goods for guys.

Support Breast Cancer Awareness this month and buy some of the quality items that support the cause. Wear this pink with pride. It's always in style.
Bond grows stronger between couple while soldier is in Afghanistan

Beth Bialkowski and Chris Laurent

BY RENEE LEE
rlee@bouquetcatcher.com

Arlington Heights native Beth Bialkowski met Montreal-born, New Orleans-raised Chris Laurent at a friend's birthday party at Millennium Park. Chris moved to Chicago after his active duty with the U.S. Navy and the Pensacola Blue Angels ended. (Now, he works in public affairs for the U.S. Navy Reserves.)

"Chris was telling me why he moved here, and he basically moved here for the Cubs," Beth said with a laugh.

That same night, Chris informed Beth he had volunteered to go to Afghanistan and would be leaving in a few months. Their first date was July 14, 2011, when they went to a Cubs game.

There wasn't a whole lot of sports coverage in New Orleans but with cable TV, WGN was very prominent and Chris grew to love the Cubs.

When Chris left for a nine-month deployment to Afghanistan, the couple kept in touch via Skype. And though they were miles away from each other, Chris said the experience brought them closer together than ever.

Beth—a project manager at LinkedIn, a jazz singer on the side and a former events planner—shared a PowerPoint-like presentation about venues with Chris when he still was overseas. They tied the knot July 14 at Schram Chapel in Glenview, which was meaningful to them because the Chapel is built on what used to be the Glenview Air Station. They both also loved Cafe La Cave in Des Plaines, where they had their reception.

Beth always had a vision of incorporating a lot of purple in her wedding but added accents of gunmetal gray as a compromise to Chris, who isn't a huge fan of purple. As a nod to Chris' French-Canadian background, the fleur-de-lis was featured in the couple's invitations and place settings.

For the reception, Beth swapped her wedding gown she found at Reddington Bridal in Park Ridge for a sparkly silver number she found from Rent the Runway that she could better dance in.

The two live in Chicago and enjoy attending Cubs games. The wedding far exceeded the couple's expectations, even though there was purple, Chris joked.

"Whoever was in charge of the weather that day was great," Chris said. "I mean, honestly, from the coordination from the chapel to the reception hall down to Beth and myself, everything was spectacular."

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY AARON EHINGER PHOTOGRAPHY

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

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High School Cube News, Sun-Times Media's new high school sports website, launched this week. It's the latest evolution in Chicago area prep sports coverage. High School Cube News will integrate all the highlights and live games from HighSchoolCube.com with the comprehensive coverage formerly provided by Season Pass.

Go to highschoolcubenews.com or click "SPORTS" on your local newspaper site.

Christine Holder & Dirk Haller
U.S. Air Force 2nd Lt. Dirk grew up in Park Ridge and graduated in 2006 from Maine South High School. Christine, a Chicago native, graduated in 2008 from Resurrection High School. The couple will marry Oct. 12 at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Norridge, with a reception at Cafe La Cave in Des Plaines. They will live in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., where Dirk is stationed as a test engineer on a F-15 Eagle fighter jet.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY GAIL HALLER

Bouquet Catcher cordially invites you to feature your wedding and engagements in print and online, free of charge.

Happy couples and photographers contact Renee Lee at 312-651-6613 or rlee@bouquet catcher.com

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Murder on the Train Mystery™
The Harvest Moon Ball at The Osthoff Resort:
A trip back to the Big Band era

By Matthew Villanueva

At The Osthoff Resort's Harvest Moon Ball in beautiful Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, you can take a trip back in time to an era when people still dressed elegantly and knew how to dance: the Big Band or Swing Era. With elegant dinners, social dancing and live music from Wisconsin's very own Bob Kuether Band, this is one weekend getaway you won't want to miss.

Swing Era music
The timeless music of the Swing Era was an evolution of earlier styles of jazz that were popular during the Roaring Twenties. During the tough economic times of the 1930s, band leaders such as Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey and Benny Goodman kept America's spirits up with their lively music, and musicians such as Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong let their unique talents shine.

Swing Era fashion
You don't have to wear period clothing to attend the Harvest Moon Ball, but if you would like to dress up in Swing Era fashions, keep in mind that fabric was rationed during the war years. Back in the day, women wore short evening dresses, plain or frilly, or satin evening suits with low-heeled black pumps. Men wore double-breasted Humphrey Bogart style suits with bold pinstripes.

Swing Era dancing
Many popular American dances originated in the Swing Era. The Lindy Hop and East and West Coast Swing are still popular around the country today.

Don't worry if you don't know how to dance yet—the Harvest Moon Ball features professional lessons that will have you moving in no time.

If you want to relive the elegance of the Swing Era, make your reservation for the Harvest Moon Ball now. Though this event isn't happening until Oct. 25, rooms at the popular resort are filling up fast. To learn more about lodging options in scenic Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, call Elkhart Lake Tourism at 877-355-4278.
PRIVATE SCHOOLS
YOUR GUIDE TO OPEN HOUSES

What’s INSIDE:
Healthy eating in the classroom
The ins and outs of open houses
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Open House
7:00 - 8:30 p.m. - Community Room

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- Winner of Deerfield's New Children's Library Card Design Contest - Claire Johnson!

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Learning language: Students at St. Celestine School in Elmwood Park are engaged in learning through the language and computer labs. SUPPLIED PHOTO

A for effort: On the first day of student orientation at Wolcott School in Chicago, students and faculty show their school pride by forming a "W" on the lawn. SUPPLIED PHOTO

Check in: Freshmen check in for orientation at Loyola Academy in Wilmette. SUPPLIED PHOTO
Navigating open houses

Insider educator intelligence

BY WENDY ALTSCHULER
For Sun-Times Media

Finding the right school for your child is no easy task; quality choices abound. Learning about all of the facets of the school, the available programs and the education ethos remains a top priority for parents. Teachers and school faculty are there to help parents find the right fit for their child. Take advantage of expert knowledge to make the most of your time at open houses.

"Students that are interested in attending Loyola Academy are encouraged to spend time on our campus through the various admissions and open house events offered throughout the fall," said Genevieve Baisley, vice president of admission and enrollment. "Prospective families will meet students, faculty members, administrators, athletic coaches and student club moderators."

Kathleen Creed, director of admissions and financial aid at Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart in Lake Forest, recommends that parents consider how challenging the curriculum and academic initiatives are for students. Attending open houses are an ideal way to find out about the prospective school's curriculum, culture and diversity as well as admission and financial aid information.

"Don't be afraid to call the admission director or visit in person," Creed said. "What if you're interested in a well-rounded education that employs best practices, tailored to your child's abilities and interests, which gauges learning success outside of regular parameters? Rachel Spiro, director of admissions at Wolcott School in Chicago, encourages families to explore options based on the academic, social and emotional needs of a student and open houses are an excellent forum for this.

"The four years of high school go by quickly," Spiro said. "It's critical for students to develop passion and confidence as lifelong learners prior to entering college."

Spiro recommends asking many questions at open houses. What kinds of arts and physical education courses are offered? What is the average class size? Do students have the opportunity to learn via one-on-one technology device programs? Does the school offer modern languages? How do teachers assess learning? Pose questions about the community, facility and school values.

"Wolcott's model recognizes that the collaboration of faculty, families and students can help each learner appreciate their value, insight, intelligence and importance," said Dr. Miriam Pike, founding head of school.

Principal at St. Celestine School in Elmhurst, Jeanine Rocchi, recommended that parents learn as much as they can during an open house. They should inquire about the communication between teacher and parent and find out what the expectations are for parents in terms of helping their child reach their potential.

St. Giles principal, Sue Poetzl, said to find out specifically how students can become successful in the classroom. Open houses provide the opportunity to learn about the avenues in which children can become better learners.

"Do a quick review of the website and any information that you've received from the school before the open house," said Rodrick L. Shaw, campus director at Intercultural Montessori Language School in Oak Park. "Jot down questions that come to mind as you review so you'll remember to ask them at the open house."

Shaw recommends taking notes during the open house to make the most of allotted time. Parents should ask about teaching philosophies, school mission and implementation as well.

"There is no substitute for a tour of the classrooms where you can see children and teachers at work. It will not only give you a feel for whether or not the school is a good fit for you and your child, but it will also answer unasked questions," said Shaw.

"Be sure to look around and take in all the hard to quantify things. Does the space feel cheerful? Do the teachers seem pleasant? Are the children engaged in their activity? Is there a good balance of freedom and order in the classroom?"

"It also helps to have some questions prepared," Fuentes said. "Don't be afraid to spend extra time with the faculty and staff that your child will be interacting with the most. This is your time to ask the tough questions."

Friends: Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart in Lake Forest alumn, Livesey Pack (left), and Michaela Bowler (right), with senior class president, Anne Kotlarz. Pack and Bowler graduated in May. I SUPPLIED PHOTO

Above: At Intercultural Montessori Language School in Oak Park, children benefit from a rich education with high quality standards. I SUPPLIED PHOTO

Left: At Loyola Academy in Wilmette, parents gather at the Freshman Parent Welcome Coffee while their children attended Freshman Orientation. I SUPPLIED PHOTO
Nutrition initiatives

Classroom education and lunchroom action

BY WENDY ALTSCHULER
For Sun-Times Media

School success often depends on access to wholesome nutrition. Students in many schools have been equipped with dietary knowledge, which prepares them to take an active role in their health by being mindful of what they eat in the cafeteria and beyond.

At Resurrection College Prep High School, students are educated about nutrition and wellbeing through a three to four week unit. The objective of the curriculum is to ensure that students are able to make well-informed decisions that will support a healthy and hearty existence.

"During this time, students participate in activities that teach and reinforce five main topic questions: What is healthy eating? How does food preparation contribute to health? Why are there so many problems in the U.S. due to poor eating habits, despite all the available information? Why is one diet healthy for one person but unhealthy for another? How can I be a healthy eater?" said Kathleen Heneghan, communications coordinator at Resurrection College Prep High School. "Two highlights of this unit are the nutrition fair and the food analysis project."

Heneghan goes on to say that during the nutrition fair, the students learn how to compare fat and sugar content from different fast food restaurants; they discover how important a healthy breakfast is; and they learn how to read food labels. In addition, the students are involved in a weeklong food analysis project.

"They compile everything they eat and input it using choosemyplate.gov. The website then lets the students know what they have to do in order to become healthy eaters," Heneghan said. "Students know about good nutrition and the difference between healthy food and empty calories, but it's another thing to have a week's worth of data in front of you that shows your daily habits and how that effects your overall health."

Wolcott School in Chicago places the student first when determining what educational initiatives are imperative in its diverse population. Consideration of the health and welfare of each scholar is of utmost importance.

"Wolcott School is Chicago's first independent college-prep high school for students with learning differences. The curriculum is tailored to the strengths and aspirations of each student," said Rachel P. Spiro, director of admissions at Wolcott School in Chicago. "Our health program, includes lessons on nutrition for adolescents. As for lunch, we provide students with a natural and organic hot lunch."

A wellness program enacted by St. James School in Highwood, which has been written by the Office of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Chicago, focuses on the fitness and health for students in all grades.

"One purposeful action on the part of the school was to remove the soda machine from our cafeteria," said Mary Vitulli, principal at St. James School. "The faculty and staff of St. James agree that wellness and good nutritional habits begin when you are young."

The nonprofit food service company, Food Service Professionals (FSP), delivers a variety of freshly prepared, made-from-scratch lunches, which includes: milk, whole grains, lean meats, fruits, and vegetables—locally grown and organic when possible, to St. James School every day.

"In addition to complete meals, a different a la carte salad is offered each day, featuring an apple-Craisin salad, chef salad, chicken Cesar salad or fiesta salad with black beans and corn," said Joanie Lombardo from FSP. "All salads are prepared with organic romaine lettuce. The school lunch menu follows USDA's nutritional requirements."

Vitulli said: "St. James is devoted to working with our students and their families in understanding what it takes to stay healthy."

Effectively, schools have taken a brawny role in preparing their students for healthy lifestyles through academic initiatives as well as by providing healthful options in the lunchroom, setting the stage for vigorous lives beyond the classroom.
Got an athlete in the house? Whether she is hitting the soccer field or he's going for it on the gridiron, what happens post-practice or after a game is just as important as the work-out on the field. Allowing muscles to recover properly is essential for a healthy season — and off-season training regime.

Muscle fibers can fray and become damaged during a strenuous workout or game. Follow these five steps for a successful season:

1) Pump up protein

After a workout, athletes need a combination of carbohydrates and protein to replenish and help rebuild muscles. Follow the 2:1 ratio rule to make sure you have the right calibration for optimal absorption of protein. The quickest way to get a proper amount of carbohydrates and protein is through a recovery drink.

2) Stretch it out

Even if you are sore, gentle stretching is necessary after a tough workout or intense game. It can improve circulation, increase range of motion, decrease muscle tension and help prevent joint stiffness. A good stretching routine can take as little as 10 minutes. Remember to avoid over-stretching and stop if you feel any pain or discomfort.

3) Stay hydrated

You hear it all the time, but stay hydrated before, during and after a workout game or practice session. During exercise, when your body loses fluid and electrolytes through sweat, it is crucial to get the extra eight ounces experts recommend athletes drink for every 15 minutes of activity. Drinking low-fat chocolate milk, such as Rockin' Refuel Muscle Recovery, after exercise not only provides the carbohydrates and protein needed to refuel and repair muscles, but also it helps replenish fluids and electrolytes (such as calcium, magnesium and potassium) that are lost in sweat.

4) Rub it out and ice it down

Some athletes pack on the ice bags as soon as they are done with a game or workout. This helps reduce swelling and tames soreness. Pack ice on sore muscles and wrap them with plastic wrap to conform to the muscles in need. Invest in a high-quality foam roller.

5) Rest

Rest not only provides a mental break, but also allows the body time to mend and repair frayed muscle. Cut rest, recovery, nutrition, hydration or stretching out of your exercise plan and your performance is sure to suffer.

Courtesy of Family Features
Students: The Pad, which offers numerous educational apps for students and teachers, creates a new way to learn.

BY WENDY ALTSCHULER
For Sun-Times Media

Most parents remember what it was like to get new-fangled technology equipment in their classroom — white boards instead of chalkboards and computers instead of electric typewriters, for example. This fall, accessibility to innovative gear and tools will spark learning and get students excited about the school year.

“We see technology as a method that enhances and supports teaching or learning in some sort of meaningful way,” said Lane Young, director of library and educational technology at North Shore Country Day School (NSCDS) in Winnetka.

Ahead of the curve, NSCDS is in their sixth year of using Google Apps, a cloud-based service from Google that features several customizable web applications. “Google Docs promotes collaboration not only between students, empowering them to do group and partner projects in different sort of ways, but between the teacher and the student as well,” said Young. “Our sixth grade science students were able to work in a group to create a presentation using the research tools built into Google Apps. They were able to work simultaneously.

“We see technology as a method that enhances and supports teaching or learning in some sort of meaningful way.”

LANE YOUNG, director of library and educational technology at North Shore Country Day School (NSCDS) in Winnetka.
Log in: North Shore Country Day School uses iPads, loaded with educational applications, in its classrooms to spark learning in its students. I SUPPLIED PHOTO

Don't forget: Hinsdale Adventist Academy believes an active, fit body is equally as important as high-tech equipment to help children learn. I SUPPLIED PHOTO

The hottest new item in schools, however, is the iPad, which offers numerous educational apps for students and teachers, providing a new way to learn. "We think our new iPad program will offer exciting options for our students," said Young. "The iPad allows students to handwrite notes but still maintain a digital record, thanks to the tablet features. The ability to create multimedia due to the camera and microphone built-in is also available."

Hinsdale Adventist Academy principal, Robert Jackson, recommends that if the school does not provide it, each child should have their own iPad, iPod Touch or high quality tablet with various educational apps loaded. "There are some fantastic academic and organizational apps available, like Notability, that help students to get the most out of their education."

Teresa Connally, director of communications at Notre Dame College Prep in Niles, said, "We are moving to using iPads in the classrooms this fall. We are very excited about it."

"Clearly, technological advances in the classroom can't take the place of many organic ways of learning. "While I think we offer state of the art tools and opportunities for our teachers and students, I'm equally proud of the times when we determine that doing something the "old fashioned way" is going to lead to a superior outcome," said Young."

"The most important equipment needed for a great start to the year is a healthy body and a well-rested mind," Jackson said. "Make sure you are getting outside and being active, and be sure to get plenty of rest. Work on your fitness because many studies prove a link between increased academic achievement and physical fitness. There are lots of great gadgets you can use to help with research and to be organized, but being able to think clearly is your best tool for learning."

On the slides, even when they were at home. Further, they were able to receive feedback from the teacher as they did the project to make sure that they were on track, both with the work that was completed and with the research that they'd found."

NSCDS offers tech instruction to students, which combines information literacy skills with curricular instruction. Several websites are recommended to students as well, including web-based programming curriculum sites alongside ones that are geared toward mathematics, reading and science know-how.

Gordon Dezotell, math teacher at Hinsdale Adventist Academy, said, "www.khanacademy.org and www.aleks.com are excellent supplementary sites to help students in math."

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Outdoor Education

Morton Arboretum leaves your children entertained, tricks them into learning

BY WENDY ALTSCHULER
Special Columnist
Windy City Mom

The Morton Arboretum is sneaky. While kids are exploring the tree house, building rock and stick dams in the creek or running through mazes, they are also gaining an under-the-radar educational experience. Established in 1922 and open every day of the year, the Morton Arboretum collects and studies trees, shrubs and other plants (190,000 specimens) from around the globe. Children will undoubtedly learn and develop a passion for nature, and adults will get the cherry-on-top when the kids all fall asleep on the ride home.

"My favorite part is that there is something for everyone. Everything we have here is very educational but kids don't realize it," said Hannah Rennard, manager of curriculum and instruction. "When they are at the flowers, they are actually learning about how insects pollinate flowers. The idea is for the parents to interact with the children and help teach them that. I like that the kids see it as play but they are learning something at the same time."

The arboretum is 1,700 acres; it includes 16 miles of trails, 500 acres of plant collections and specialty gardens and 900 acres of woodlands, prairies, meadows, lakes and streams. Families are able to take part in the great outdoors as well as contribute to a non-profit science, research and conservation organization that plants and protects trees for a healthier world.

"Mom and dad can get ideas about gardening while the kids are playing," Rennard said.

The highlight of the arboretum for parents with children under 10 years old is the award winning, five-acre interactive Children's Garden and hedge maze, a nature-lover's paradise. Ten themed gardens - bursting with interactive and learning-based play - will engage your kids as they observe various ecosystems from around the world. Kids will spot birds, turtles, frogs, squirrels, chipmunks and dragonflies in the Adventure Woods and the Backyard Discovery Gardens. They can put their bare feet in the stream and feel the smooth rocks; they can climb up rope bridges and pretend to be pirates in the tree houses-all they need is an imagination and a sense of adventure.

"One thing that is kind of interesting is that you see lots of moms, dads and grandparents here everyday so it's a multigenerational kind of experience," said Mary Beth Sammons, public relations manager. "It's [the Children's Garden] all fenced in so you don't have to worry about your child getting lost and it caters to children of various ages."

Not only are children safe and secure within the boundaries of the Children's Garden, extraordinarily friendly and knowledgeable volunteers and staff mill about the area, welcoming conversation and offering guidance.

Fresh air, sunshine, inspiration and exercise are all brilliant reasons to take a trip to the arboretum. Spend the day appreciating nature while supporting an organization that is doing good things for our environment and for our kids. Visit www.mortonarb.org for more information.

Read more from the Windy City Mom, Wendy Altschuler, and her adventures at specialsections suntimes.com/lifestyle/parenting.

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Character • Scholarship • Citizenship • Responsibility
Dewey Decimal: Youngsters who have their own library cards might be more excited about visiting the library and more likely to develop a love of reading.  

SUPPLIED PHOTO

How to encourage kids to read

Reading can have a profound impact on a child's life in and out of the classroom. Reading can help a young student develop a more extensive vocabulary, and a study from the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics found that reading to young children promotes language acquisition, making it easier for them to learn a foreign language. That's a significant advantage for children growing up in an increasingly global world.

However, reading has benefits outside the classroom as well. Reading can provide an escape from the daily grind, which is something even today's youngsters can appreciate. Reading also is a great way for kids to relax and unwind while simultaneously giving their brains a workout.

While many parents recognize the impact reading can have on their children, it's no secret that getting kids to embrace reading can be difficult. Distractions such as video games, social media and even the great outdoors are all there to draw kids away from reading. However, parents who want to instill a love of reading in their children can still take steps to ensure their kids don't miss the benefits of a good book.

* Read to your children. Numerous studies have discovered various benefits of reading to children when they are young. The National Center for Education Statistics notes that children whose parents read to them typically become better readers and perform better in school. Reading to children early on is the first step toward fostering a love of reading kids will develop and continue throughout their lives. Many parents read to their children at night before bedtime, but any time of day will suffice.
* Don't be discouraged if kids are not interested in books. While reading fiction can help develop a youngster's imagination, parents should not be discouraged if kids don't want to read books. Reading the newspaper, magazines and even comic books can help kids develop strong reading skills and an extensive vocabulary and, in the case of comic books, inspire their imaginations.

* Get your youngster his or her own library card. Thanks to the popularity of e-readers, many adults would be hard pressed to locate their local library if asked to do so. However, visiting the library is a great way to encourage kids to read, especially if kids have their own library cards. Kids with their own library cards tend to look at visits to the library as shopping trips where they get to make their own choices about what they're taking home with them. Once kids reach a certain age, they can visit the library on their own.
* Share your own reading experiences with children. Kids look up to their parents and often want to mimic their behavior. Therefore, parents can set a good example by reading as well. On trips to the library, check out your own book. While you might not want to discuss every book you read with your children, discuss the books they're reading. Chances are you read many of those same books yourself when you were a child, and discussing books with your child is a great way to improve his or her reading comprehension.

Distractions abound for today's youngsters, who might not embrace reading as readily as they do video games or social networking. However, parents can take many steps to instill a love of reading in their kids that will last a lifetime.
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145 S. Green Bay Rd. Lake Forest, IL 60045 (847) 615-6151 www.lfcds.org
Students need the right balance of challenge and support as they strive to succeed academically, express themselves creatively and make meaningful contributions to the lives of others. At Lake Forest Country Day School, the dedicated faculty focuses on both cognitive and social-emotional growth as well as helping to build the self-awareness and strong character that leads to high achievement and a passion for learning. From the 1ST STEP program for 2-year-olds through eighth grade, an education at LFCDS allows students to step into the future with confidence. LFCDS offers financial assistance so that your child can take advantage of all the school has to offer. Call the admission office to find out more.

MONTESORRI SCHOOL OF LAKE FOREST
13700 W. Laurel Dr. Lake Forest, IL 60045 (847) 918-1000 www.mslf.org
The Montessori School of Lake Forest admits children ages 15 months to 15 years on a year-round basis, according to classroom openings and developmental readiness. This welcoming policy supports the needs of today's families. At MSLE, the admissions process is an experience of getting to know you. Families receive personal tours and have the opportunity to ask many questions. Please join the school at its upcoming open houses. Tours begin at 9:30 a.m. on Oct. 2, 23 and Nov. 6. To learn more about the MSLF and to arrange for a tour, please the school or visit its website.

OPTIONS FOR COLLEGE SUCCESS
820 Davis St., Suite 455 Evanston, IL 60201 (847) 425-4797 www.optionsforcollegesuccess.org
Options for College Success is a nonprofit organization that supports learning-challenged post-secondary students as they transition to independence. The group also provides the tools needed for independent living, finance management, social skills and career placement. The nurturing environment helps students be successful in college and beyond. The staff believes in looking at what the student can do, and not what they cannot. The new program for high school students joins the other individualized programs: residential, day program and Extension program. Contact Shoshana Axler at snaxler@optionsforcollegesuccess.org or (847) 425-4797 to schedule a visit or for more information.

POPE JOHN XXIII SCHOOL
1120 Washington St. Evanston, IL 60202 (847) 475-5678 www.popejohn23.org
Pope John XXIII School is an award-winning school for preschool to eighth grade. Pope John XXIII is a National Blue Ribbon School for academic excellence; State of
from Chicago and its surrounding suburbs. Eighth-grade boys are invited to schedule a shadow day by visiting www.stpatrick.org or by calling (773) 282-8844.

SAINT PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

5900 W. Belmont Ave.
Chicago, IL 60634
(773) 282-8844
www.stpatrick.org

Saint Patrick High School is Chicago's oldest all-male college preparatory high school. Located on Chicago's northwest side, St. Pat's serves a diverse student population of approximately 700 young men from Chicago and its surrounding suburbs. Eighth-grade boys are invited to schedule a shadow day by visiting www.stpatrick.org or by calling Matt O'Brien, Director of Admissions, at (773) 286-8452.

Classes: Freshmen at Loyola Academy in Wilmette check out new schedules for the 2013-2014 school year at Freshman Orientation. A part of our community, supported by the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.

Open Houses for prospective students will be Thursday, Nov. 7 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 17 from 2-4 p.m. Visitors can learn about Resurrection's innovative block schedule, strong curriculum and diverse programs. Shadow Days are available for eighth-grade girls to shadow a current Resurrection student. Visit www.reshs.org or call (773) 775-6616 Ext 12910 for more information about Resurrection.

JOINT PUBLISHING COMPANY

SAINT PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL College Preparatory

Join us at our Open House!
Thursday, October 17
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Matt O'Brien '05 Director of Admissions
773.286.8452
stpatrick.org
5900 West Belmont Chicago, IL 60634

WOLCOTT SCHOOL

524 N. Wolcott Ave.
Chicago, IL 60622
(312) 610-4900
www.wolcottschool.org

The Wolcott School offers an exemplary high school program for young women with a long tradition of excellence. Employing best practices, the expert faculty is dedicated to helping students gain self-awareness, confidence and resilience as well as the academic, social and communication skills to flourish in college and beyond. Families are strongly encouraged to submit an application by the Dec. 13 (priority deadline). After Dec. 13, applications will be accepted on a space available basis. Contact Rachel Spire, director of admissions, for an application or to schedule a tour.

THE WOLCOTT SCHOOL

524 N. Wolcott Ave.
Chicago, IL 60622
(312) 610-4900
www.wolcottschool.org

Fall open house: Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2 p.m. Wolcott School offers an exemplary high school program for students with learning differences that are tailored to the strengths and aspirations of each student. Employing best practices, the expert faculty is dedicated to helping students gain self-awareness, confidence and resilience as well as the academic, social and communication skills to flourish in college and beyond. Families are strongly encouraged to submit an application by the Dec. 13 (priority deadline). After Dec. 13, applications will be accepted on a space available basis. Contact Rachel Spire, director of admissions, for an application or to schedule a tour.

WACOLAND JEWISH HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE
For all interested families
November 3, 2013 - 1:00 p.m.

100% of seniors are admitted to colleges and universities of students participate in extracurricular activities of students participate in community service.

Contact Lily Zoberman, Director of Admissions • 847.324.3706 • lzoberman@chsjhs.org

A partner in serving our community, supported by the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.
Is your toddler reading?

East Lake Academy serves children that show high academic aptitude and who thrive in an accelerated academic environment. Come see how Reading, Math and Spanish are taught in Pre-K.

Pre-Kindergarten OPEN HOUSE

November 14, 2013
7:00 PM

13911 West Laurel Drive
Lake Forest, IL 60045
847-247-0035
Eastlakeacademy.org

Entire school average above 90% on the national Stanford Achievement Test, 6 years straight.
Next year is the 30th anniversary of Chrysler's minivan, so the automaker is celebrating with a uniquely trimmed 30th Anniversary 2014 Town & Country limited edition and a stylish "S" version that joins the lineup.

On sale now, the 2014 Town & Country has 85 segment-exclusive new features and, at Chrysler's Proving Grounds in Chelsea, Mich., we were able to check out the stunning new 30th anniversary edition and drive the special "S" version of a lineup.

This front-wheel-drive minivan seats up to seven, with a base price that begins at $29,995 for the Touring model, while Touring-L is priced at $33,145, and Limited at $39,650; the new S starts at $32,195.

All Town & Country's have standard dual power sliding doors, along with power and heated folding side mirrors. Inside, find beautiful craftsmanship and high-quality materials, front and rear overhead consoles with an observation mirror and sunglasses holder, a removable sliding floor storage bin with cupholders and a power outlet in the back.

Interior trim includes a leather-wrapped steering wheel, with wheel-mounted audio controls. The rear seats are re-configurable, foldable and removable. Stow 'n Go seating has a one-touch fold-down feature for easier access to the third row and the segment-first Stow 'n Place roof rack. Limited edition models come with second-row captain's seats, which is also available on the Touring L model.

Notable are the great ergonomics, the available "super center console" that has clever functionality and storage for CDs, DVDs, notepad and wallet and integrated power outlets, as well as easy driver/passenger access with a pass-through storage space.

Power comes from a 3.6-liter V-6 making 283 horsepower and 260 lb-ft. of torque matched to a 6-speed automatic transmission. Chrysler says this Pentastar engine gets best-in-class horsepower and fuel economy of 17 miles per gallon.

Power comes from a 3.6-liter V-6 making 283 horsepower and 260 lb-ft. of torque matched to a 6-speed automatic transmission. Chrysler says this Pentastar engine gets best-in-class horsepower and fuel economy of 17 miles per gallon.

The FuelEconomizer mode allows drivers to choose between standard and fuel-saving shift calibrations. Sixteen-inch wheels and four-wheel power-assist disc brakes with ABS are standard.

The quietness of this minivan is enjoyable as a companion to high-command seating and great visibility to all sides.

We had plenty of power on tap, with seamless shifting, tight-feel, of the steering and the performance suspension.

Of note are the available industry-exclusive Blu-Ray player, that comes with HDMI input for video game systems, navigation, SiriusXM Radio and SiriusXM Travel Link; plus leather seats and a sharper-resolution rear-seat DVD player that are standard.
NEW 2014 FORD FIESTA SE SEDAN

$15,499 WITH $500 FORD REBATE OR 0% APR FOR 60 MONTHS

NEW 2014 FORD FOCUS SE SEDAN

$17,395 ORIGINAL PRICE

$1,500 FORD REBATE

$500 FINANCE REBATE WAC

$15,895 SALE PRICE

OR 2.9% APR FOR 60 MONTHS

NEW 2014 FORD FUSION SE SEDAN

$21,599 ORIGINAL PRICE

$1,000 FORD REBATE

$500 FINANCE REBATE WAC

$20,099 SALE PRICE

OR $500 FORD REBATE + 0% APR FOR 60 MONTHS

NEW 2014 FORD ESCAPE SE

$22,699 ORIGINAL PRICE

$1,000 FORD REBATE

$500 FINANCE REBATE WAC

$21,199 SALE PRICE

OR $500 FORD REBATE + 0% APR FOR 60 MONTHS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>MSRP</th>
<th>Savings</th>
<th>Fuel Efficiency</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Jeep PATRIOT SPORT</td>
<td>FWD, Aux Audio Input, Floor Mats, Rear Defrost, All-Season Tires, CD Player, MP3 Player, ABS, Brake Assist, Variable Intermittent Wipers, Fog Lamps, Bucket Seats, Rear Bench Seats &amp; More</td>
<td>$11,995</td>
<td>$31,790</td>
<td>$20,854</td>
<td>28 HWY MPG</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013 Dodge PATRIOT SPORT</td>
<td>Power Everything, CD, Head Airbag, iPod/MP3, Flex Fuel, Rear Spoiler, Keyless Entry, Tire Pressure Monitor with Warning Lamp, Electronic Vehicle Information Center, Power Heated Exterior Mirrors &amp; More</td>
<td>$20,990</td>
<td>$31,990</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
<td>20 HWY MPG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Dodge CHARGER SE</td>
<td>Power Everything, DVD, Head Airbag, Stability Control, Traction Control, Keyless Start, Aluminum Wheels, Tire Pressure Monitor with Warning Lamp, Illuminated Entry, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags &amp; More</td>
<td>$21,990</td>
<td>$31,990</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>20 HWY MPG</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013 Dodge CHALLENGER SXT</td>
<td>Power Everything, DVD, Head Airbag, Stability Control, Traction Control, Keyless Start, Aluminum Wheels, Tire Pressure Monitor with Warning Lamp, Illuminated Entry, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags &amp; More</td>
<td>$9,000 OFF</td>
<td>$31,990</td>
<td></td>
<td>20 HWY MPG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Dodge DURANGO SXT</td>
<td>Power Everything, Folding 2nd &amp; 3rd Row Seats, Outside Temp, 12v Outlets, On-board Audio Control, Aux Input, CD Player, Advanced Multifunction Front Airbags, SiriusXM Satellite Radio, Power Sliding Doors, Power Liftgate &amp; More</td>
<td>$23,990</td>
<td>$31,990</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>20 HWY MPG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Dodge TOWN &amp; COUNTRY</td>
<td>Power Everything, Heated Mirrors, Outside Temp, 12v Outlet, Aux Input, CD Player, Satellite Radio, Phone Integration, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags, Keyless Entry, Security Alarm, Tinted Glass &amp; More</td>
<td>$15,790</td>
<td>$26,990</td>
<td>$11,200</td>
<td>20 HWY MPG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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500 new Chryslers, Jeeps, Dodges and Ram Trucks are stocked on the lot! Choose from a huge selection of models, colors and equipment packages!

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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Model</th>
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<th>Price</th>
<th>Payment Options</th>
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<tr>
<td>MONTE CARLO SS</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>Pewter</td>
<td>$26,995</td>
<td>0% APR, $2,995/MO</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAMARO LT</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>$24,995</td>
<td>0% APR, $2,495/MO</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUBURBAN LT 4x4</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>Metallic Silver</td>
<td>$26,995</td>
<td>0% APR, $2,695/MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SONOMA LT</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>$18,995</td>
<td>0% APR, $2,895/MO</td>
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<tr>
<td>SILVERADO EXT CAB</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td>$29,995</td>
<td>0% APR, $3,995/MO</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLAZER LT</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>$27,995</td>
<td>0% APR, $3,795/MO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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SERVICE: Mon - Fri: 9-9 & Sat: 9-7

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Lake Chapin owners enjoy a wonderland

October in Michigan is beautiful. The summer crowds have gone, the back roads are quiet again, the fields are ripe for harvest, the vineyards and u-pick orchards provide laid-back afternoons and the color is spectacular. There is no better time to spend a great weekend in Michigan than October.

It's time to enjoy the wine tours and antiquing, spectacular golf, boat cruising and fishing, romantic evenings and fine dining. It is also prime time to look for that elusive perfect weekend getaway home.

There is a lot to do just an hour and a half from Chicago and, in the last four years, an increasing population of Illinois residents have invested in second homes in Michigan to give their families the advantage of a permanent getaway year-round without a big investment in time and travel expense.

One of the most scenic and desirable spots for a second home and vacation retreat is Lake Chapin Shores, a combination lake-and-woods property located on Lake Chapin in southwest Michigan. The successful community is a quiet country paradise, easy to get to through gently rolling countryside and two-lane roads shared with the occasional farm vehicle, cyclist or horseback rider. The backdrop of 600-acre all-sports Lake Chapin offers incomparable sight lines from the 10 lakefront properties, five hilltop sites and six other homesites tucked more privately into the woods.

The model home offers a glimpse into possibilities for vacation convenience, amenities and four-season fun, while the Website at www.LakeChapinShores.com illustrates all the unique features of 12 separate home designs from which to choose.

Each home option emphasizes convenience and low maintenance, an open floor plan, outdoor views from each level and access to screened porches and expansive decks. Homes are designed to meet the needs of any size family, with from 1,300 to 3,400 square feet of comfortable living space (not including decks and porches), cozy fireplaces, cherry or maple cabinetry, natural granite countertops and energy-efficient appliances.

The community's heated swimming pool, lakefront dock, sports equipment storage options, children's playground and available concierge services are part of the package.

Against the backdrop of the season, there is boating, going after the big fish, a romantic sunset stroll along the shore, an evening at the firepit roasting marshmallows with the kids or spending some time on the deck with friends. With these images families are creating life-long memories. This is life at Lake Chapin Shores, just 75 miles from Chicago.

Take the short trip to visit southwest Michigan and Lake Chapin Shores. Call 888-TO-MICHIGAN (888-866-4244) for an appointment to tour the community and model home. Visit the Website at www.LakeChapinShores.com for a look at each of 12 model home options, photos and video of Lake Chapin Shores living and a complete list of materials and specifications.
Infuse natural elements into decor scheme

Nature is bringing a breath of freshness into home decorating, but it’s more than just incorporating flowering pots or opening windows. The latest home decorating trend features natural elements in the textures and finishes of furniture and accessories, giving homeowners an elegant and often calming result of blending nature and home living into a beautiful space.

“We really want to see the handprint of nature in our homes now,” says Elaine Griffin, New York interior designer and author of Design Rules. “Organic in the home is huge. It’s one of the biggest trends for the year, and it’s going to stay with us for a while.”

Bring this elegance into your own home with the following decorating suggestions from Griffin.

Bring exotic looks into your kitchen with new cabinetry that go beyond the basic oak or cherry woods. Griffin suggests using rosewood or zebra wood, woods formerly reserved for custom furniture. And as both new construction and remodeling projects embrace the open floor plan concept, cabinets are visible from several rooms, which makes it a style upgrade not only for the kitchen, but for adjacent spaces, as well.

The latest furniture design trends also reflect the growing popularity of organic materials and textures, Griffin says, whether it’s a table top left in the natural oak wood finish, or driftwood incorporated into furniture or accessories. The pale gray coloring of driftwood, combined with honey or pale colors used on other furniture or the walls is opening up spaces, moving away from the darker colors.

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“The natural look isn’t just for the kitchen and living areas. It’s also perfect for the bathroom.

The era of matching all fabrics, styles and materials in a room has shifted into combining elements of all into a beautiful room setting, Griffin says.

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The era of matching all fabrics, styles and materials in a room has shifted into combining elements of all into a beautiful room setting, Griffin says.

“All great rooms need a mixture of finishes for furniture, with something that's painted, something that's wood, something that's a metallic gold leaf, something that's ceramic,” she says.

“That's the secret to professionally styled rooms.”

A trend to consider: the Belgium-influenced neo-industrial style, which brings a softer, natural yet industrial touch to rooms.

“It's a soft industrial. It means you’ve combined the wood elements with metal. And that metal could be gold leaf,” Griffin advises.

Creating warm, comfortable surroundings infused with a sense of eco-elegance is why the natural elements trend has been so embraced. About to embark on your own remodel or home refresh?

Be sure to explore how bringing natural elements — whether they’re salvaged materials or realistic pretenders — into your decor can enhance the ambiance of the room.

— Courtesy of BrandPoint

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.
SIGN OF BETTER TIMES

New model launched at Bailey Estates

Construction is under way for a new two-story model at Bailey Estates in Williams Bay, Wis. Scheduled for completion by January 2014, the 2,094-square-foot Roosevelt model by Gerstad Builders includes such amenities as a full basement, central air conditioning, ceramic flooring, eased-edge granite kitchen countertops, and stainless steel appliances (gas range, microwave range hood and dishwasher).

Located at Bailey Estates in Williams Bay, Wis., The Roosevelt is designed to offer a lot of living space for a low cost per square foot of construction. Scheduled for completion by January 2014, the 2,094-square-foot Roosevelt model by Gerstad Builders is base-priced for $224,490. At this price the home includes such desirable amenities as a full basement, central air conditioning, ceramic flooring, eased-edge granite kitchen countertops, and stainless steel appliances (gas range, microwave range hood and dishwasher).

When guests walk through the three-bedroom, 2½-bath home, they are greeted by spaciousness and the abundance of natural light. This contemporary floor plan eliminates unnecessary walls between the first-floor rooms. Thus the kitchen flows into the breakfast room, which continues uninhibited into the family room. The first floor also has a 12½-by-12½-foot room adjacent to the entry foyer that can be used as a study, living room or formal dining room. Finishing up the first level is a powder room and a laundry room, the latter between the two-car attached garage and the family room.

The Roosevelt also features three bedrooms, a “flex area” and two bathrooms on the second level. The master bedroom suite features an abundance of windows, a walk-in closet and a private bath. The other two bedrooms have access to another bath.

In addition, Bailey Estates offers a variety of ranch and two-story homes that typically feature vaulted ceilings, 9-foot first-floor ceilings, three to five bedrooms, two to three baths, living room, formal dining room, family room, kitchen with 42-inch upper cabinets, breakfast area, basement and an attached two-car garage. These homes provide 1,740 to 3,177 square feet and are base-priced from $194,990 to $296,090.

Gerstad also offers a variety of optional features including skylights, three-car garages (per plan), wood-burning fireplaces, additional volume ceilings, custom millwork, imported ceramic tile, Corian or granite countertops, hardwood flooring, and English or walkout basements.

Gerstad also offers homebuyers the opportunity to modify any available floor plan.

The community is served by Williams Bay Elementary School and Williams Bay Junior/Senior High School. Residents of the community can also enjoy a variety of recreational activities along the serene countryside.

The sales center for Bailey Estates is at 436 Ashley Drive, approximately ¾ mile west of Highway 67. For more information, call (815) 385-4495 or (262) 903-5555, or visit www.gerstadbuilders.com.

Gerstad is also building homes in Richmond, Poplar Grove and McHenry in Illinois.

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Make A New Plan...We did! Come see us and discover our exciting new G floor plan. See how our best ideas and features have come together in this new, stylish 2800 square ft. plan.

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Four words that have spanned over forty years of home building excellence and the hallmark of a Gerstad-built home. Beautiful communities, affordable luxury and established neighborhoods.

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The Trails of Dawson Creek
In Poplar Grove
From the $150's
The Trails of Pleasant Ridge
In Richmond
From the $200's
Boyle Estates
In Williams Bay, WI

Visit Liberty Trails in McHenry for more information.
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More from Elkhart Lake, Wis.

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

Enjoying fine wines and gourmet food at the Lake Street Café

Though it's small, this town is big on food featuring local, fresh ingredients.

Fall recreation in Sheboygan County's Marsh Park

With more than 13,000 acres of pristine land, Marsh Park provides the perfect opportunity for the true outdoor enthusiast to explore the wilderness of Sheboygan County.

Local dining spotlight: Tuesday tapas at the Paddock Club

Just steps from the shores of Elkhart Lake, the Paddock Club's atmosphere of European sophistication and elegance fits right in with the town's vibrant downtown area. Read more at WeekAway.com

Weekends by WeekAway

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

Galena, Ill.
Galena Oktoberfest
Oct. 5
galenafest.com/galena-oktoberfest

Carbondale, Ill.
Southern Illinois Irish Festival
Oct. 4-6
silirishfest.org

Grayslake, Ill.
Arts & Crafts Show
Lake County Fairgrounds
Oct. 5-6
lcfair.com

Sponsored content by WeekAway.

For more information on these or other destinations, visit WeekAway.com and follow @WeekAway on Twitter
NEWS WHEN YOU WANT IT. IT'S A LOCAL THING.

check out happenings in your area at PIONEERLOCAL.com
National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) is a joint venture between the American Cancer Society and Imperial Chemical Industries' pharmaceutical division. NBCAM partners with charities to raise funds and awareness in October, and throughout the year. Its functions are research, prevention, treatment and support. It has promoted mammograms as an early-detection measure since its inception.

Sisters, Laura and Halee Sage, direct the Lynn Sage Foundation, which was founded in honor of their sister, Lynn Sage, a Chicagoan who died from breast cancer at the age of 39. The foundation has partnered with the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University to fund annual scholarships of $100,000, for a maximum of two years, to researchers.

"We are very excited about the novel approach Dr. Sarika Jain, our newest Lynn Sage Scholar, is focusing on," Laura said. "Dr. Jain is investigating the role of immunotherapy as a complementary approach to eliminating breast cancer. Specifically, she is injecting a bacterial vaccine into metastatic tumors, and she predicts this will eliminate the tumor and eliminate disseminated tumors throughout the body. Long-term consequences of her research could be groundbreaking."

The Lynn Sage Foundation has raised $15 million for breast cancer research. In October, the Lynn Sage Cancer Research Foundation is partnering with more.

SEE GENERATIONS, PAGE 2

Understanding Breast Cancer: Reducing Risk, Imaging and Treatment Options

Important advancements have been made in cancer care. You can learn more for free—straight from the NorthShore Kellogg Cancer Center's team of experts.

**NorthShore University HealthSystem**

Kellogg Cancer Center

**When:** Wednesday, October 16 5:30 p.m. Registration and light refreshments 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Program

**Where:** Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, IL

Nichols Hall, inside of the Regenstein Center (Signs will guide you)

**Admission:** FREE (complementary parking*, light refreshments served)

*Simply alert gate attendant that you're attending the NorthShore event

**Registration required:** northshore.org/understandingcancer or call (847) 492-6910
A portion of the proceeds from every Pink Shop item purchased during the month of October goes to the Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Research Foundation and other breast cancer facilities.

PLUS, EVERY TIME YOU USE YOUR STORE CREDIT CARD TO MAKE A PURCHASE ALL YEAR LONG, AN ADDITIONAL DONATION IS MADE.

6.7 oz. Q nude dramatically different moisturizing lotion $38, Web ID 666968

12 oz. strawberry parrfait mercury glass candle 19.99.

Special Edition Coach Signature 1.7 oz. Eau de Toilette Spray $56.

Jasmine rose wrap robe $34.99.

"Fight Like a Girl" Plaque Reg. $12, sale 5.99.

Manicure set Reg. $12, sale 8.40, Web ID 638909

Nail Polish Set Reg. $12, sale 8.40, Web ID 638909


Ruff Hewn Graphic Tees sale 5.99.

Plaque Reg. $12.

Wooden Finch candle $19.99.

Jasmine rose wrap robe in white houndstooth & plush pink, Reg. $66, sale 34.99.

"Fight Like a Girl" plaque Reg. $12, sale 5.99.

Special edition coach signature 1.7 oz. Eau de Toilette Spray $56.

Mixer clip $10.2 AA batteries included.

Mercury glass candle $19.99.

12 oz. strawberry parfait mercury glass candle 19.99.

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Ruff Hewn Graphic Tees sale 5.99.

Plaque Reg. $12.
TOp 5
Managing Editor Jennifer Thomas' picks for this week.


2. Chicago Philharmonic Chamber Players (pictured) will explore Great Russian Romance with a concert at 3 p.m. Oct. 6 at St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. See ChicagoPhilharmonic.org.

3. Films for the Ear, a staged reading of classic films, continues with “Network” Oct. 6 at 27 Live, 1012-1014 Church St., Evanston. A themed dinner starts at 7 p.m. or show only at 8 p.m. 27Live.com.


Women artists on how society shapes our bodies

BY JOANNA BRODER
For Sun-Times Media

For anyone who has ever felt any pressure to conform, a new art exhibit at Oakton Community College might hit home.

The exhibit, “Bodies by Design: Modification, Coercion, and Resistance,” explores the ways in which men and women modify their bodies “to conform to some ideal or to be more acceptable,” said Judy Langston, curator of the show. “Bodies” runs through Oct. 25 at Oakton Community College’s Koehnline Museum of Art, located at 1600 E. Golf Road in Des Plaines.

“I would expect that many people would take a look at the art that’s going to be on display and would really identify with it like: ‘Oh yeah, OK, I’ve been there. I know what it’s like to have to iron my hair just so I look good’ or ‘I know what it’s like to have to wear certain garments or things like that,’” Langston, also a professor of art and graphic design, said. Artists also explore issues of sexual violence and sex trafficking, the aftermath of breast cancer, sun worshiping, and how these relate to body image, as well as lighter themes such as shoes and cosmetics.

“It’s a very provocative show,” said Kathleen Carot, coordinator of Oakton’s Women’s and Gender Studies Program. The show as always, is free and open to the public, as is the Oct. 3 opening night reception, 5-8 p.m., when many of the 60 participating artists will be on hand.

The show is juried and draws artists from around the country and even internationally, Carot noted. Several artists from other countries are displaying work in this year’s show, she said.

“It’s a very provocative show,” she said. She hopes the art sends visitors away thinking. “All you can do with something like this is to just get people to think a little more deeply about some of these issues,” Carot said, “to think about the consequences of the media’s constant messages of what we’re supposed to look like.”
Rated as one of the best haunted houses in Illinois, Scream Scene has been scared the wits out of thousands of visitors for more than ten years.

**October 2013 Dates:**
4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 31
7-10 p.m.
Thursday, October 24 - Discount Day $7

Rated as one of the best haunted houses in Illinois, Scream Scene has been scaring the wits out of thousands of visitors for more than ten years.

**$9 per person**
Ticket sales end 20 minutes prior to closing.
Special rates available for groups of 15 or more Call for information.

**4701 Oakton Street (at Skokie Blvd.)**
Skokie, Illinois
(847) 674-1500, ext. 2700

“Lights On” Haunted House:
$3/Child, $2/Adult
October 19 & 26, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sponsored by:
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SKOKIE
www.ScreamScene.org

Mary Chapin Carpenter and Shawn Colvin play the North Shore Performing Arts Center Oct. 8.

**Carpenter rebounds from hardships for joint tour**

**BY BRUCE DUNN**
For Sun-Times Media

After major hardships the past few years including a heart embolism, a divorce and the death of her father, singer/songwriter Mary Chapin Carpenter has rebounded with a regional Emmy, induction into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame and "Ashes and Roses" - a successful album addressing her recent issues of loss and grief.

Now, the progressive country artist is winding up a tour with her longtime friend, fellow Grammy-winner Shawn Colvin.
Carpenter and Colvin will perform Oct. 8 in Skokie's North Shore Center for the Performing Arts.

We caught up with Chapin to talk about her current record, performing with Colvin and getting through hard times.

**Q**: You've gone from a period in your life that was extremely challenging to one that was very successful. How did you manage the transition?

**A**: I had some bumps along the way a few years ago but when I felt it was time to get back to work I just put my head down and went to it — and tried to write songs that were meaningful to me. It's been so rewarding when people hear them and say, "I've felt that way, too."

Q: Did "Ashes and Roses" feel different, more personal, than your previous albums?

A: Not really. I've always written about things that are important to me. So, while I knew that some people might feel this was a pretty dark record, I also knew that life really is sometimes hard.

I believe you go through these things in order to get past them. It's not overnight, it's not immediate, but as time goes on, and you get farther and farther away from the event, and the emotions of loss and grief eventually become a part of you. You go forward as something of a transformed person.

**Q**: This tour you've been on with Shawn Colvin sounds like fun.

A: Oh, it has been so much fun. We've been all over the world with it the past year and a half. Shawn and I have been friends for almost 30 years and we've played on each other's records and performed together. But we realized a while ago that we'd never been on a formal tour together.

This is just us trying to replicate what we do when we get together and hang out, singing harmonies on each other's songs and pulling out songs from other artists that we'd grown up loving.

**Q**: So, now that this tour is winding down, what's next for you?

A: Well, I'm not sure how much I'm supposed to talk about it, but I have a new record coming out in January and I'm very excited about it — it's very different.

**Q**: Can you give us a hint?

A: Let's just say it involves a really big band. (Laughs) How does that sound?
MOVIE REVIEW

Joseph Gordon-Levitt stars in the film he also wrote and directed, "Don Jon."

'Don Jon' gets it right when it stays light

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Film Critic

Considering that the hero's journey in "Don Jon" basically involves a New Jersey knucklehead figuring out that there's more to sex than pornography, it's remarkable how enjoyable it is for much of its running time.

In his writing/directing/starring debut, Joseph Gordon-Levitt eventually runs into trouble when he decides to get serious. For the most part, though, when he sticks to light social satire, this is smart, fast-paced and funny stuff. It's also, of course, no-holds-barred raunchy from the moment it begins.

Gordon-Levitt is Jon, a New Jersey mook nicknamed Don Jon by his friends. He's a ladies' man with pumped-up muscles, greased-back hair and no desire whatsoever for female companionship outside of bed.

Jon's an affable sort who's primarily devoted to his bed, his bachelor pad, his family, his church, his friends and his porn — with a particular emphasis on that last item.

Clearly, Jon has cultivated a sizeable addiction to porn, but his real problem is that he quite honestly prefers it to the real thing. He knows that's not a good thing and decides that what he needs is a deeper relationship.

At first, Jon and Barbara seem to have been made for each other in New Jersey heaven and it's a delight to see her playing him like a hooked fish once he commits to "the long game" to coax her into bed. Gradually, though, it becomes clear that Barbara has a definite agenda, exerting more and more control over him with the promise of sex that "means somethin'."

One of the changes she insists on sends Jon to business school at night, where he meets an older woman named Esther (Julianne Moore). And it's the introduction of her character, representing maturity, humanity and sexual reality, ironically, that causes "Don Jon" to ring false for the first time.

It's obvious that Gordon-Levitt wants to take Jon to a deeper place, but the sudden shift in tone is a little hard to take — even a little confusing for some, apparently. The audience I saw it with, so accustomed to laughing at the film's earlier outrageousness, responded to a scene in which Esther sobs uncontrollably over a recently suffered tragedy by laughing out loud.

Gordon-Levitt manages to present Jon's sudden enlightenment capably, but that's not the same as being convincing. It's going to take a lot more than a few lessons in intimacy and sensuality from an older woman to make this guy turn off his laptop.
BY MYRNA PETLICKI
For Sun-Times Media

Know your neighbors. That’s what Randy Korb, otherwise known as The Frog Guy, will help your kids do at a Second Sunday Special, 2-3 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Niles Public Library, 6060 W. Oakton St.

“We will be learning about the amphibians that live around Niles,” Korb said. “The children and adults will be feeding them and holding them and listening to their calls. I’ll be pointing out different characteristics of each frog and salamander.”

The Wisconsin naturalist reported that there are about 10 species of frogs and five species of salamanders in this area.

Korb believes that kids should learn about frogs and salamanders because, “They are part of our world. It is healthy for them to learn about things in nature. It will add something to their lives. They are attracted to them automatically and we are just going to be nurturing that interest.”

Pick up free tickets at Youth Services 30 minutes before the presentation. For details, call (847) 663-1234 or go to www.nileslibrary.org.

DOE, A DEER, A FEMALE DEER
Your family can croon that verse and a lot more at the Sound of Music Sing-a-Long, 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11, at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Everyone is encouraged to come in a Von Trapp family costume.

For details, call (847) 673-7774 or go to www.skokielibrary.info.

COUNT ON HAVING FUN
... at a Mathematics Tea Party, 2-3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 6, at Morton Grove Public Library, 5140 Lincoln Ave. There will be songs, stories, counting and other activities at this event for ages 3-5, accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Registration is required.

For details, call (847) 965-4220 or go to www.mgpl.org.

Send us your holiday bazaar information

Pioneer Press will publish its annual holiday bazaar roundup in the issue of Nov. 7. To have your bazaar, craft fair or boutique in the listing, please send information about the event, including time, date, venue address and short description, to Susan Parker at sparker@pioneerlocal.com. Deadline for submissions is Oct. 25.
Dollars and sense: Financial literacy for kids

Help your kids make "sense" out of their dollars with these financial literacy tips from Joanne Wong, vice president of marketing for Virtual Piggy, a website that teaches youth about money matters.

JUST SAY "KNOW"
Wong is a strong believer in talking to kids about money. "It's an important life skill that needs to be learned through ongoing conversations and experiences," she said.

In fact, the earlier you can start introducing kids to the concept of money, the better. For young children, parents can show how money is used in everyday life when buying groceries, clothing and more. As kids get older, the conversations can become more advanced, with discussions about budgeting, identifying wants versus needs, and the importance of saving.

"For many families there's a misconception that talking about money is taboo," Wong said. "The truth is, money is a topic that should be discussed more frequently to ensure kids get comfortable managing their own money and making good choices."

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE
Another great way to help children learn financial responsibility is through real-life experience. This can range from playing "store," to opening a lemonade stand or hosting a garage sale. At my house, we often turn family game night into "financial awareness night" by playing board games that incorporate money into gameplay such as Monopoly, The Game of Life and Payday. Another fun activity can take place at your local farmers market. Give each child a set amount of money, for example $2. The object is to have the kids buy whatever they like with their money, as long as it does not go over the $2 limit. Eventually everyone meets up and the kids compare their goods, which often leads to a conversation about the value of money.

MODEL MONEY MANAGEMENT SKILLS
According to a survey conducted by Junior Achievement, 86% of teens learn their money management skills from their parents, which is why Wong believes modeling good money sense is of primary importance.

One way to help kids learn good financial habits is to include them in your decision-making skills. For example, you can explain how you "price shop" at the grocery store or set aside money for your retirement.

A "family savings jar" is another great way to model financial responsibility. First, meet together as a family and decide on a financial goal and what you will do with the money once the goal is achieved. Then have family members contribute a certain amount to the jar each week. Kids can also help by counting the money each week and charting the family's progress. Eventually your family will end up with a nice nest egg and a meaningful lesson on money management.

RESOURCES
Want more suggestions for teaching kids financial literacy? Check out these resources:

Virtual Piggy (www.virtualpiggy.com): This 21st-century digital piggy bank helps kids learn financial responsibility through real-life experience. Geared towards kids ages 11-16, the Virtual Piggy website provides a safe and secure place for kids to save, budget and spend responsibly.

Jumpstart (www.jumpstart.org): A coalition of financial literacy organizations providing information for pre-kindergarten through college-age youth. Includes information on state standards, best practices and curriculum development.

Money Savvy Generation (www.moneysavvy.com): Helps kids "get smart about money." with a variety of products including the ingenious Money Savvy Pig, a piggy bank that lets kids put their money into four separate chambers (saving, spending, investing and donating).
BY WRAPPORTS NEWS SERVICE

THURSDAY, OCT. 3

Cinematic Classics: 'The Thomas Crown Affair'
1 p.m.: This 1968 film tells the story of a bank executive who executes a multi-million dollar heist and the insurance investigator who will do anything to catch him. Starring Steve McQueen, Faye Dunaway and Paul Burke. 102 minutes. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-966-5277.

Travel Film: Japan and Singapore
2 p.m.: Journey through the exotic cultures and delectable foods of East Asia today. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Billy Cobham's 'Spectrum 40'
6:30 p.m.: The jazz fusion drummer, composer and bandleader, who came to prominence with Mahavishnu Orchestra, performs. Evanston SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Call 847-492-8860. $25-$45.

Documentary Film: 'Brooklyn Castle'
7 p.m.: Filmmaker Katie Dellamaggiore tells the story of a public-school junior high chess competition. 90 minutes. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Avenged Sevenfold
7 p.m.: Burton, a jazz fusion trailblazer and Grammy-winning pioneer of the four-mallet technique of playing the vibes, performs with his latest band. Evanston SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Call 847-492-8860. $20-$50.

Scram Scene
7 p.m.: Guests will wind their way through a maze featuring crazed butchers, chainsaw maniacs and ghoulish monsters. Not recommended for children under 10 years old. Lights-on haunted house Oct. 18 and 26 at 11:30 am. Oakton Park, 4701 W. Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-674-1500, ext. 2700. $9.

'Donna & Rocco's Big Fat Italian Wedding'
7 p.m.: In this interactive show, Donna and Rocco are finally getting hitched after dating for 15 years and friends, family, dinner, drinks and dancing are all on the menu. Maggiano's Little Italy Old Orchard, 4988 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. Call 847-261-4688. $60.

Scientist Turned Comedian Tim Lee
7:30 p.m.: Tim Lee delivers a blend of stand-up science comedy. Lee, a comedian with a Ph.D., became an Internet sensation with more than four million views of his YouTube videos. Gorilla Tango Skokie, 7524 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-7761. $25.

Chance Duo in the Lounge
7:30 p.m.: Park Ridge VFW, 10 W. Higgins Road, Park Ridge. Call 847-825-4588.

SATURDAY, OCT. 5

Harvest Fest and Not-for-Profit Day
7:30 a.m.: Get ready for fall with pumpkins, fresh apples, vegetables, mums, cornstalks and more. This friendly-family event will feature children's activities and food. Northfield Farmers Market, 6 Happ Road, Northfield.

Canoe the Canal
9:30 a.m.: Guests will view the feathered residents of the ecology center by canoe. There will be basic canoe instructions given before the ride. Registration is required. Evanston Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd., Evanston. Call 847-444-8256. $10-$24.

Skiokie Art Guild
9:30 a.m.: The group offers figure drawing workshops every Saturday. Devonshire Cultural Center, 4400 Greenwood St., Skokie. Call 847-673-4650. $20 per session; $12 for guild members.

Free Trail Walk at The Grove
2 p.m.: Guided trail walks are ideal for families and individuals interested in nature. The Grove, 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview. Call 847-299-6096.

Moira's Afternoon Tea
2 p.m.: Celtic Knot hosts afternoon tea weekly. The menu features little sandwiches, homemade scones, whipped cream, strawberries, and little pastries, and teas from around the world. The Celtic Knot Public House, 625 Church St., Evanston. $16.95; $9.99 children.

Music for the Sesquicentennial: Songs from the 1860s
7 p.m.: The EvansToneans, a local choir group, perform popular songs from the 1860s. Evanston History Center, 225 Greenwood St., Evanston.

Luke and Andrea Bartolomeo: Piano Duo
7:30 p.m.: The program will include George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," as well as works by Brahms, Dvorak and others. Saint Luke's Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. $10-$20.

Sunday, Oct. 6

Eddie Biondo Fall Fest Parade
1 p.m.: Parade features marching bands, clowns, local businesses and civic organizations. The annual Pumpkin Fest at North Park follows. Downtown Franklin Park, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-451-8135.

Chicago Philharmonic Chamber Players: Great Russian Romance

Skiokie Valley Symphony Orchestra

John Pizzarelli Quartet
6 p.m.: The world-renowned jazz guitarist and singer performs with his band. Evanston SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Call 847-492-8860. $27-$46.

Music of the Baroque
7:30 p.m.: An orchestral and choral performance of music by Bach, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. $25-$75.

Submit Your Event
To submit an event for consideration in print, visit www.pionerlooncal.com/submittcontent and click the "Events" tab on the left side of the screen. Please submit the event no later than 10 days before the desired publication date.

TUESDAY, OCT. 8

Film: 'Robot and Frank'
11:30 a.m.: This 2012 film stars Frank Langella, Susan Sarandon and Peter Sarsgaard in the story of an aging jewel thief whose son buys him a domestic robot. 89 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. For more information, call 847-965-4220.

Feature Film: 'The Great Gatsby'
2 p.m.: This film version of the classic novel tells the story of a Midwestern moving to New York City during an era of loosening morals, jazz music and bootleg kings. It stars Leonardo DiCaprio and Carey Mulligan. 142 minutes. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, please call 847-825-3123.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9

Dan Cummins
8 p.m.: The comedic, who has appeared on "The Tonight Show," "The Late Show" and "Last Comic Standing," performs. Zanies Comedy Night Club Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont. Call 847-813-0484. $20.

The James Hunter Six

THURSDAY, OCT. 10

Classic Movie Thursday: 'On the Town'
2 p.m.: This Oscar-winning musical-comey tells the story of three sailors who find adventure, fun and romance during their day of shore leave in New York City. Starring Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra and Ann Miller. 98 minutes. Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles. For more information, call 229-683-9360.

Q87.7 Presents GROUPLOVE

SEE CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE. 
8 p.m.: A comedic performance by Paula Poundstone, winner of the "American Comedy Award for Best Female Stand-Up Comic" in 1989 and frequent panelist on NPR's "Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!" North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. $45-$52.

SUNDAY, OCT. 13

'Skokie: Invaded, But Not Conquered' 2 p.m.: Screening of Todd Whiteman's documentary, which explores the impact of the attempted neo-Nazi March of the late 1970s. Reservations required. Additional screenings will take place Nov. 17 and Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. Illinois Holocaust Museum, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie.

MGPL 75th Anniversary Jubilee Concert 2 p.m.: Celebrating the library's 75th anniversary with the ShamRock Ragsters, who will perform Dixieland, bluegrass, Irish and Celtic tunes on fiddle, bass, guitar, trumpet, Irish flute, Irish whistle, harmonica, banjo and mandolin. Cake and coffee will be served after the concert. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

FRIDAY, OCT. 18

Nightmare on Olmsted 7:30 p.m.: Wear your most creative costumes to the Park Ridge Community Women fundraising event benefiting the neurovascular research of Bernard R. Bendok. Performers will pay homage to Journey by dressing up and playing their greatest hits from the '80s. Benefactor Park, 4639 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge. Call 708-475-1244. $3-$13.

SATURDAY, OCT. 19

Intergalactic Bead & Jewelry Show 10 a.m.: A wide array of precious and semi-precious gemstone beads, sterling silver, freshwater pearls, hand-blown glass beads, vintage beads, crystals, delicas and much more. For more information and a $2 off admission coupon visit www.beadshows.com or call 888-729-6904. Event will be held 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Oct. 19 and 20. $5 Saturday admission; $4 Sunday admission; kids under 12 free. White Eagle Banquets & Restaurant, 9839 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles.

The Rat Pack is Back! 8 p.m.: This performance will transport the audience back to 1960s Las Vegas with Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., Joey Bishop and Dean Martin. Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. $23-$43.

John Caparulo 8 p.m.: The regular on "Chelsea Lately" and host of CMT's "Mobile Home Disaster" performs. Zanies Comedy Night Club Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont. Call 847-813-0484. $25.

SUNDAY, OCT. 20

Zombie Tag 2 p.m.: Come save the world from zombies or risk becoming one. Players may bring their own zombie slaying Nerf weapons or use the ones provided. For ages 14 to 19. Norridge Park, 4639 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge. Call 708-475-1244. $5.

---

WORLD'S LARGEST MODEL HOBBY SHOW

FREE Thomas the Tank Engine Train Rides!

FREE Models to build and take home!

Fun For Everyone & Kids are FREE!

IHobby Expo!

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
October 5 & 6, 2013
10am-5pm

NEW! Schaumburg Convention Center 1551 N. Th/orave Drive Schaumburg, IL 60193

Adults $12

Children under 10 - FREE!

Specials - Over 10% off sale items on Sunday only

No cash or credit cards

FREE PARKING!

Info: HobbyExpo.com

KIDS ARE FREE!

FREE PARKING!

ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY THRU SUNDAY

FEATURE BANDS

THE EDELWEISS BAND

JOHNNY WAGNER BAND

PALOMA BAND

EURO EXPRESS BAND

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Join Us for the Best Time Ever

Beer Promos Friday & Saturday's

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EDELWEISS OKTOBERFEST NOW THRU NOV 2
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Make a date with the most extraordinary poet, swordsman, and bon vivant the world has ever known.

**Film Clips**

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Film Critic

OPENING FRIDAY

**GRAVITY**

Rated PG-13 for intense perilous sequences, some disturbing images and brief strong language.
Stars: George Clooney, Sandra Bullock
Chances are good that you've never seen a film set in outer space as immersive and involving as this extremely suspenseful survival drama from writer/director Alfonso Cuaron ("Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban," "Y Tu Mamá También"). Cutting-edge special effects create a sense of casual hyper-realism, immediacy and intimacy that makes it seem we're right there, all alone with mission-commander Kowalski (Clooney) and space newbie Dr. Stone (Bullock, in a career-best performance) after they're stranded outside their ship by a sudden disaster. That's an intensely uncomfortable place to be.

The pair's one hope is to make their way, with dwindling oxygen and jet-pack fuel, to the International Space Station, where they might possibly find a way home — if they live through the ingenious obstacles Cuaron places in their way. If "Gravity" has a flaw worth mentioning, it's the sentimental backstory Cuaron comes up with for Stone, climaxd by an unnecessarily mawkish scene. That's far outweighed, though, by the most powerful moments in this film, which are profoundly eloquent in a way that requires no dialogue. It's a must-see, even if you had to travel into space to do it.

**PARKLAND**

Rated PG-13 for bloody sequences of ER trauma procedures, some violent images and language, and smoking throughout.
Stars: Zac Efron, Paul Giamatti, Billy Bob Thornton
A dramatic recounting of the events surrounding the assassination of JFK — centered around the emergency room where he was treated. Journalist Peter Landesman makes his writing/directing debut with the drama.

**RUNNER RUNNER**

Rated R for language and some sexual content.
Stars: Ben Affleck, Justin Timberlake, Gemma Arterton
A college student (Timberlake) gets mixed up with the crooked operator (Al-fleck) of an online poker site. Brad Furman ("The Lincoln Lawyer") directed the thriller.

**INEQUALITY FOR ALL**

Rated PG for thematic elements, some violence, language and smoking images.
Stars: Robert Reich
Comparisons are bound to be made between this enlightening/infuriating documentary on extreme income disparity in the United States (with its corollary marginalization of the middle class) and the Oscar-winning "An Inconvenient Truth." It has an essentially liberal perspective and much of it is filmed live during a lecture by economist and longtime Washington insider Robert Reich, complete with a PowerPoint presentation.

Reich is a livelier speaker than Al Gore, however, and many of the film's statistical interludes have been entertainingly animated as insurance against eyeball-glazing. There's no reason to fear you might slip into a coma while viewing "Inequality for All." A fit of apoplexy might be another matter, though, for middle-class viewers, regardless of political persuasion.
SHOWTIMES

Movie times are effective Friday, Oct. 4, through Thursday, Oct. 10. Please note that theater schedules are subject to change.

PICKWICK THEATRE
5 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge
(847) 604-2234; www.pickwicktheatre.com

Gravily (PG-13)
Fri-Sun 2-4:30-7-9:15; Mon-Thu 4:45-7-9:15

Grace Unplugged (PG)
Fri-Sun 1:30-4:6:30-8:45; Mon-Thu 4:15-6:30-8:45

Prisoners (R)
Fri-Sun 1:30-5-7:30-10: Mon-Thu 5-7:30-10

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2 (PG)
Fri-Sun 1-3:30-6-8:15; Mon-Thu 4:15-6:15-8:15

ROSEMONT IB
9701 Bryn Mawr Ave., Rosemont
(847) 447-1030; www.muvico.com

Captain Phillips (PG-13)
Thu 8-10:20

Machete Kills (R)
Thu 8-10:40

Acquire the Fire Presents: Surge (not rated)
Wed 7 p.m.

Gravity (PG-13)
Fri-Thu 11:45-9:30

Gravity in 3-D (PG-13)
Fri, Sat 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15-12:45; Sun 4:05-6:35-9:05; Mon-Wed 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15; Thu 12:15-2:45-5:15

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2 (PG)

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2 in 3-D (PG)

Battle of the Year (PG-13)

Insidious: Chapter 2 (PG-13)
Fri, Sat 11:30-2:10-4:50-7:40-10:20; Sun 11:30-2:10-4:50-7:40-10:20

Instructions Not Included (PG-13)

Lee Daniels The Butler (PG-13)
Fri-Thu 1 p.m.

AMC SHOWPLACE
VILLAGE CROSSING IB
7000 Carpenter Road, Skokie
(888) AMC-4FUN; www.amctheatres.com

Acquire the Fire Presents: Surge (not rated)
Wed 7 p.m.

Gravity (PG-13)
Fri-Thu 11:45-9:30

Gravity in 3-D (PG-13)
Fri, Sat 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15-12:45; Sun 4:05-6:35-9:05; Mon-Wed 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15; Thu 12:15-2:45-5:15

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Instructions Not Included (PG-13)

Lee Daniels The Butler (PG-13)
Fri-Thu 1 p.m.
Call Katie at 630-978-8371 to place your ad!
Death Notices

Irgang, Patricia Barbara "Pat" 
84, of Wabash, IN, died at 2:00 a.m., Sunday, September 29, 2013 at her home. She was born September 10, 1929 in Green Bay, WI to Raymond and Frances (Saar) Johannig. She was a 1947 graduate of New Triar High School in Wabash, Indiana, and received her associate degree from Penn Hall Community College in Chambersburg, PA in 1949. She was a bookkeeper in an accounting office. She lived in Wabash since 1920, coming from Evanston, IL, where she had lived since 1960. She is survived by 3 sons, Michael Irgang of Indianapolis, Indiana, Timothy (Nancy) Irgang of Wabash and their children, Sean Irgang of Wabash and Kelly Irgang of Palestine, Illinois; and Robert (Randi Zimmerman) Irgang and their children, Samantha Irgang, Brooke Irgang, Robert Edward Irgang, all of Wabash. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, David Johannig.

There will be no services. Private committal services will be held in Showangan, WI, at a later date. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, Indiana 46992. Preferred memorial is American Veterans Association. The memorial guest book for Patricia may be signed at http://www.grandstaff-hentgen.com/

Sign the Guest Book at www.chicagolandobits.com

Everyone Has A Story
Share the memories with your local community through a Death Notice
Call: 847-998-3400 (opt 6)
Email: deathnotices@pioneerlocal.com

Share the Memories
Place an In-Memoriam
Include a photo of your loved one

Remembrance:
Love's Greatest Gift
Place a Card of Thanks or an In-Memoriam

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Call: (708) 724-7500

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Ask about our available Death Notice Emblems.
Call: 847-998-3400 (opt 6)

Death Notices

O'Brien, Sean Patrick 
Age 37, life was suddenly and tragically ended by a car accident on September 29, 2013. Survived by his beloved wife and soul mate Lisa (Welland) O'Brien. Beloved son of John and Linda O'Brien. Loving brother of Erin (Brent) Eglington, Moreen (Jacob) Lusk and Kevin "Shorty" O'Brien. Adored uncle of Isabelle and Matthew Eglington, Ethan Lusk and Keaton Lusk.


Sean was very close to his family, extended family, and friends. He received his double Bachelor's degree from Illinois State University. His master's degree in Political Science from the University of Illinois and then he went on to receive his Juris Doctorate from the University of Dayton Law School. Shortly after law school Sean began a career working at the Illinois Department of Criminal Justice Information Authority where he is well respected amongst his peers. One of his main contributions was developing an organizational model of their system in which many states throughout the country have implemented.

Visitation was Friday at Cooney Funeral Home, 625 Busse Hwy., Park Ridge from 4-8 p.m. with a funeral service at 6:30 p.m. Sean was laid to rest on Monday, September 30 in Springfield, IL. Visitation was at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (524 E. Lawrence). Funeral mass at 10 a.m. interment took place at Edinburg Cemetery in Christian County, IL.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation would be appreciated. Info (847) 685-1002. www.cooneyfuneralhome.com

Sign Guest Book at www.chicagolandobits.com

Death Notices

Thumbee Sr., Carl W. 
Born December 3, 1920, passed away July 26, 2013 at age 92. Beloved husband of Grace (McInley) for 64 years; loving father of Carl Jr. (Susan), Sheila and Christine; dear grandfather of Megan and D.J.; Uncle Carl to many nieces and nephews.

An Algonquin resident since 1990, previously of Des Plaines, Park Ridge and Chicago. Carl served as a Seabee, CM2C, in the Pacific 1942-45, on the islands of Midway, Tinian and Wake. He was very proud of never getting a tattoo while in the service. He worked as an artisan Union Carpenter all his life. He loved playing the organ and belonged to CATOE to enjoy hearing others play as well. He was passionate about his model railroad hobby, his last 3 homes had tracks running all around the basement. He, his sense of humor and zest for life will be deeply missed.

A Memorial Mass celebrating Carl's life will be held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help church in Glenview IL on Saturday, October 5th at 11:45 a.m., with a luncheon following at Hackney's on Lake in Glenview. All are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Sr. Paulanne's Needy Family Fund are encouraged, online or/c/o OLPH Church, 1775 Grove St., Glenview, IL 60025.

Sign Guest Book at www.chicagolandobits.com

General Information
Concerning The
Death Notice Page

• A paid death notice may be ordered to appear in the Pioneer Press when funeral arrangements are made, and must be submitted in writing. Information about charges for death notices may be obtained from area funeral directors or by calling (847) 998-3400. A 24-hour fax service is offered at (847) 486-6836 or death notices may be e-mailed to deathnotices@pioneerlocal.com.

• An in memoriam or card of thanks may be placed using the same information above.

• The deadline for placing a death notice, in an in memoriam or card of thanks, is Monday at 5:00 pm. Photos must be submitted by Monday at 2:00pm.

• The death notice department is staffed from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday.

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

Remembrance:
Love’s Greatest Gift
Place a Card of Thanks or an In-Memoriam

Sign the Guest Book at pioneeraldlocal.com

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

Email: deathnotices@pioneerlocal.com
Call: 847-998-3400 (opt 6)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHICAGO</td>
<td>Edison Park Lutheran Church</td>
<td>6626 N. Oliphant Ave. Chicago, IL</td>
<td>(Across park from Edison Park Metra) 773.631.9131, <a href="http://www.edisonparkchurch.com">www.edisonparkchurch.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Saturday Worship 4:30 p.m. Sunday Worship 8:00, 9:15 &amp; 10:30 am Rev. Dr. Michael D. Sparby, Sr. Pastor Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry Matt Haider, Worship/Music Michael Lyda, Children/Youth/Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St. Paul Lutheran Church</td>
<td>5650 N. Canfield, 60631</td>
<td>(708)867-5044, <a href="http://www.stpaulcanfield.org">www.stpaulcanfield.org</a> Street Level, Air Conditioned Sunday Worship 8:15 &amp; 10:45AM Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible 9:30AM Saturday Worship 6PM Lutheran Unity School - West Pre K-Grade 8, SHARING GOD, TOUCHING LIVES EVERYWHERE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)</td>
<td>6201 W Peterson Ave. Chicago, IL</td>
<td>(773) 631-0715 Saturday Worship 5:30PM Sunday Worship 10:30AM Holy Communion Weekly Pastors: Barbara Berry-Bailey and Jeffery King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLENVIEW</td>
<td>Rohr Chabad Center of Glenview</td>
<td>701 Harlem Avenue, Glenview</td>
<td>Shabbat morning services 9:30 am NO membership required For all your Jewish needs call 847-910-1738 <a href="http://www.ChabadofGlenview.com">www.ChabadofGlenview.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morton Grove Community Church</td>
<td>8944 Austin Avenue</td>
<td>(847) 965-2982 <a href="http://www.mgcpcpresbyterian.org">www.mgcpcpresbyterian.org</a> Sunday Worship 10 AM Fellowship 11 AM Rev. Lolly Dominski Handicapped Accessible ALL ARE WELCOME!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORWOOD PARK</td>
<td>St. Alban's Episcopal Family-friendly church</td>
<td>6240 N. Avondale, near Devon &amp; Harlem</td>
<td>Communion every Sunday. 9:30 stalbanschicago.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHERN WEST</td>
<td>Zion Lutheran Church</td>
<td>8600 W Lawrence Avenue Norridge, IL 60706</td>
<td>(708) 453-3514 Rev. Luther John Bajus, Pastor Sunday Worship 9:30 am Holy Communion 3rd &amp; 5th Sunday Early Communion – 1st Sunday 9:00 am Sunday School – 10:35 am Adult Bible Study – 10:45 am Handicapped Accessible Serving the Community Sharing God’s Promises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARK RIDGE</td>
<td>Park Ridge Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>1300 West Crescent Ave.</td>
<td>847-823-4135 Sunday Service: 10:00 am Children’s programming for Pre-K – 7th grade, Nursery service for younger children 8:45 am Confirmation classes for 8th grade 9:00 am High School Adult Education Bible Study Sunday 11:30 am Adult Education Bible Study Thursdays 6:30 pm “Open Forum” Adult Learning First Thursday every month 6:30 pm <a href="http://www.parkridgepresby.org">www.parkridgepresby.org</a> Like us on Facebook Mr. Aaron Higashi Dir. of Youth &amp; Family Ministries Mrs. Amy Schaetzlein Sunday School Dir.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To showcase your House of Worship here call 630-978-8277 or Worship@Pioneerlocal.com
## Local Worship Guide

### SKOKIE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central United Methodist Church</td>
<td>8237 Kenton Ave, Skokie</td>
<td>(847) 673-1311</td>
<td><a href="http://www.skokiecentralumc.org">www.skokiecentralumc.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devar Emet Messianic Synagogue</td>
<td>7800 Niles Ave, Skokie</td>
<td>847-674-9146</td>
<td><a href="http://www.devaremets.org">www.devaremets.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>4950 W Pratt Ave, Skokie</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Congregation Bene Shalom</td>
<td>4435 Garton St, Skokie</td>
<td>(847) 677-3330</td>
<td><a href="http://www.beneashalom.org">www.beneashalom.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evanshire Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>4555 Church Street</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.evanshirepresbyterian.org">www.evanshirepresbyterian.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation</td>
<td>4500 Dempster St, Skokie</td>
<td>847-675-4117</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ehnt.org">www.ehnt.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple Beth Israel</td>
<td>3601 W Dempster St, Skokie</td>
<td>847-675-0951</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tbiskokie.org">www.tbiskokie.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### WILMETTE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Congregation</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beth Hillel Congregation B’nai Emunah</td>
<td>3220 Big Tree Lane, Glenview</td>
<td>847-256-1213</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bhcb.org">www.bhcb.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### To showcase your House of Worship here call
- **630-978-8277**
- **worship@Pioneerlocal.com**
Puzzle

Super Crossword

Across
1 Move belly-up on at four
9 Take — (do some traveling)
12 Capital of Tanzania
20 Restricted zone
21 Espresso with steamed milk
22 Rooming appliance
23 One using a spare bedroom
25 New York's island
26 Minister to Scotland
30 Quiver
31 Gloria of pop
34 Actor Cage
35 Surf zone
38 Actor's color
41 With 3-
43 What many corporations are listed on
44 Goddess of love
45 Sliding by
46 Eatery list
47 Aquatint, e.g.
48 War film, e.g.
50 Angels' wings
53 Actor
54 Droid or robot
55 Pigeon shed
56 Ending for "Ant"
58 Chemist
59 Red Square
60 Banquet
61 Uses a "+"
63 Strike and hassle
64 "It's smart to"
65 "... — quit!"
66 Rikki-tikki- -
68 Last name of Madeline
72 Google find
74 "Crossfire"
75 Wine cooler
78 Snake eyes
80 "To go"
81 Kind of PC
84 Dog relative
85 Get's
88 Deprive (of)
90 Daytona 500
92 U.S. spy org.
93 Brian of rock band
94 Orbital point
95 Stereotypes
98 OPEC
99 Toughen, as wood
100 Loud couple
101 - come (in)
102 Taj Mahal
103 UV ray
104 Artificial tar
105 What this puzzle's title is
106 Takes ten
107 Embers
108 They require
109 It's all wet
110 Misters, for short
111 - -hool
112 "There's"
113 - -ish
114 45 spinners
115 What this puzzle's title is
116 A hardwood
117 "... -hool"
118 Bridge writer
119 "... - hool"
120 "... - hool"

Down
1 No.A
2 10 sawbucks
3 3 sees 41
4 44 Goddess of love
5 3-1
6 88 Good bud
7 91 Weep
8 92 U.S. spy org.
9 93 Brian of rock band
10 94 Orbital point
11 95 Stereotypes
12 98 OPEC
13 99 Toughen, as wood
14 98 U.S. spy org.
15 90 Daytona 500
16 89 Farm alarm
17 87 Emerald Isle
18 86 Deprive (of)
19 85 Pollen carrier
20 84 Dog relative
21 83 Deprive (of)
22 82 Of one's
23 81 Kind of PC
24 80 "To go"
25 79 "Soap Talk"
26 78 "Crossfire"
27 77 "Julia star"
28 76 "How Great"
29 75 Wine cooler
30 74 "Crossfire"
31 73 "Julia star"
32 72 Google find
33 71 Butterfly's
34 70 "Crossfire"
35 69 It aired
36 68 "Crossfire"
37 67 Women's espresso
38 66 Rikki-tikki- -
39 65 "... — quit!"
40 64 "It's smart to"
41 63 Strike and hassle
42 62 "... — quit!"
43 61 Uses a "+"
44 60 Banquet
45 59 Red Square
46 58 Chemist
47 57 9-Down
48 56 Ending for "Ant"
49 55 Pigeon shed
50 54 Droid or robot
51 53 Actor
52 52 Husband of Sarah Palin
53 51 Poetic quirk
54 50 Angels' wings
55 49 Trio after "K"
56 48 War film, e.g.
57 47 Aquatint, e.g.
58 46 "Eating time"
59 45 Sliding by
60 44 Goddess of love
61 43 What many corporations are listed on
62 42 Inventors of corporations
63 41 With 3-
64 40 "... — quit!"
65 39 One using a spare bedroom
66 38 Actor's color
67 37 Request for
68 36 Transgems
69 35 Surf zone
70 34 Actor Cage
71 33 Fusses
72 32 Lot in life
73 31 Gloria of pop
74 30 Quiver
75 29 Envy
76 28 Metalliferous
77 27 Scottish Minister to New Yorks
78 26 Minister to Scotland
79 25 New York's island
80 24 Diner bill
81 23 One using a spare bedroom
82 22 Rooming appliance
83 21 Espresso with steamed milk
84 20 Restricted zone
85 19 " ... -hool"
86 18 "Julia star"
87 17 Scale range
88 16 "Julia star"
89 15 Defeat in a war film
90 14 45 spinners
91 13 dish
92 12 There,
93 11 Hwy.
94 10 Hellenic 'T'
95 9 Toughen, as wood
96 8 Madeline of pop
97 7 Butterfly's
98 6 NPR's
99 5 Obi-Wan
100 4 Abuts
101 3 There,
102 2 Strike and hassle
103 1- Down
104 0- Down
105 91 Weep
106 87 Emerald Isle
107 86 Deprive (of)
108 85 Pollen carrier
109 84 Dog relative
109 83 Deprive (of)
110 82 Of one's
111 81 Kind of PC
112 80 "To go"
113 79 "Soap Talk"
114 78 "Crossfire"
115 77 "Julia star"
116 76 "How Great"
117 75 Wine cooler
118 74 "Crossfire"
119 73 "Julia star"
120 72 Google find
121 71 Butterfly's
122 70 "Crossfire"
123 69 It aired
124 68 "Crossfire"

Horoscopes: October 9 — October 15

Aries (March 21 to April 19) A bid for you to step in and take over an incomplete project could prove to be an excellent learning experience that you can take with to new opportunities.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) It's a good time for socializing, both with family and with friends. Your aspects also favor developing new relationships, any or all of which might become meaningful.

Gemini (May 21 to June 20) Your success in handling a recent difficult situation prompts a request to handle another workplace problem. Accept only if you get all of the relevant facts.

Cancer (June 21 to July 22) New information about a past decision raises some unsettling questions from an old friend. Be prepared to explain your actions fully.

Leo (July 23 to August 22) This is not a good time to share personal secrets, even with someone you've known for a long while. What you don't reveal now won't come back to haunt you later.

Virgo (August 23 to September 22) Pushing yourself to meet a project deadline is admirable. But be careful not to leave out important details in your rush to complete your work and send it off.

Libra (September 23 to October 22) Watch that you don't take on more than you can handle when offering to help someone with a personal problem. Might be hidden factors you weren't told.

Scorpio (October 23 to November 21) That major move you've been considering could come sooner than you expected. Make sure you'll be ready with the facts you need.

Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21) Langushing relationships can benefit from a break in routine. Get out of the rut and do something new and unpredictable this weekend.

Capricorn (December 22 to January 19) Although you don't think of yourself as a role model, your ability to make a tough decision at this time sets an example for others.

Aquarius (January 20 to February 18) You need to move any remaining obstacles out of your way before you can take on a new challenge. Seek advice from close, trusted friends and associates.

Pisces (February 19 to March 20) A career change appears likely to happen during the next several weeks. It's a good idea to start now to prepare, so you can be ready to make the move.
CAR STORY

We want to tell your car story. Email it to matt.schwerha@wrapports.com.

Fred Thompson's 2010 Grand Sport Chevrolet Corvette
By Joshua Beckman - joshuabeckman@wrapports.com

"I've had two kinds of adventures with this car, one where you go and just drive, and one where you drive fast and then have to concentrate on not wrapping the thing around a pole," says Fred Thompson of his 2010 Grand Sport Corvette.

The 436 hp, 6-speed manual transmission C6 is Thompson's third in the line of Corvettes, after previously owning the C4 and C5. "It's got the big brakes, big wheels, big tires, the XM radio - all the bells and whistles. I drive it as much as I can, but when the weather's nice I have to choose between the 'Vette and the motorcycle."

The Grand Sport has a two-stage exhaust system, which gives it extra horsepower in the upper rpms, "and also gives it a pretty good sound," says Thompson. "It's a little thirsty, but it's a really fun car. It's nice going down the entrance ramps to the freeway - you can build up speed fast."

"I may keep it, but it depends on how I can get in it - the low seats may give me problems as I get older. Some others I know have that problem," Thompson says. "These new cars are much more solid and the frames don't flex. When you're in this one you know you're on the road because the suspension is so taut, but it's so aerodynamic you don't feel anything else."

Thompson doesn't consider buying the older sports cars anymore. "I've had enough crude, old sports cars. Now I prefer new, nicer cars."
Auto sales dropped 23 percent in Niles in June on a month-over-month basis, as residents of Niles purchased 67 fewer cars and trucks in June than in the previous month.

In the month of June, Toyota was the top selling make to Niles residents with a total of 36 sales. The breakdown of the 36 Toyota sales in the month was 12 new and 24 used. Chevrolet and Nissan rounded out the top three makes in sales (both new and used) during the month with 27 and 25 sales, respectively.

The previous month, Toyota topped the overall auto sales chart for Niles residents with a total of 48 sales, followed by Honda (41 sales) and Ford (31).

The breakdown of all auto sales in June was 36 percent new and 64 percent used. The most popular make bought used in the month was Toyota, while the top new make was Nissan. The previous month, residents purchased used cars and trucks 60 percent of the time. Honda was the most popular make purchased used that month, while Toyota was the top brand bought new.

In June, 62 percent of all car sales to Niles residents came through a local auto dealership, while this share was at 64 percent the previous month. The 62 percent mark in June translated to 142 total sales (and 87 private sales) originating at dealerships, versus 190 total dealer sales (106 private) one month earlier.

Top car dealerships selling to Niles residents in June included Golf Mill Ford, Bredemann Toyota and Star Nissan. The month before, Star Nissan, Bredemann Toyota and O'Hare Hyundai comprised the list of top three auto dealerships selling to Niles residents.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Model Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Mileage</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Contact Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HONDA 2007 CR-V EX-L AWD</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Wow! Only 40K Miles! Moonroof, Heated Leather. This Won't Last!</td>
<td>40K Miles</td>
<td>$19,495</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyota 2006 RAV4 Sport</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Mega Low Mile! Sunroof, One Owner. Perfect Driveway Runner!</td>
<td>30K Miles</td>
<td>$12,995</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ford 2011 Fiestas SE Hatchback</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Great Gas Mileage CD/MP3, Spoiler. A Fun Ride!</td>
<td>50K Miles</td>
<td>$11,995</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chevrolet 2008 Malibu Hybrid</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Take Advantage Of Excellent Gas Mileage!</td>
<td>40K Miles</td>
<td>$10,995</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercedes Benz 2008 E-Class</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Navigation, Sunroof &amp; More! This Won't Last!</td>
<td>30K Miles</td>
<td>$13,495</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeep 2006 Wrangler X 4x4</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Low Mile, Am/FM/CD, One Owner. Sharp!</td>
<td>50K Miles</td>
<td>$14,995</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toyota 2009 Corolla LE</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>One Owner, Super Clean, Great On Gas! A Great Buy!</td>
<td>30K Miles</td>
<td>$11,995</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nissan 2006 Altima 2.5SL</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Low Mile, Sunroof, Heated Leather. The Right One!</td>
<td>40K Miles</td>
<td>$15,495</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chrysler 2006 300C</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>HEMI Powered! Heated Leather, Premium Sound &amp; More!</td>
<td>50K Miles</td>
<td>$13,495</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>BMW 2001 530i Sedan</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Low Mile, Sunroof, Power Options, CD. Affordable Luxury!</td>
<td>40K Miles</td>
<td>$11,995</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volkswagen 2004 Jetta GLS</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Low Mile For Year! Sunroof, Heated Mirrors, Premium Sound. Gas Saver!</td>
<td>40K Miles</td>
<td>$11,995</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hyundai 2008 Tucson Limited</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Only 31K Miles! Sunroof, Heated Leather &amp; Mirrors More!</td>
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<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dodge 2006 Charger</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Super Low Mile, CD, Automatic, One Owner. Sleek!</td>
<td>40K Miles</td>
<td>$13,495</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chevy 2007 Equinox LT</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Low Mile, iPod Input, CD, A Great Deal!</td>
<td>30K Miles</td>
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<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volvo 2004 S60 Sport</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Sunroof, Heated Leather, One Owner. Family Ready!</td>
<td>30K Miles</td>
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<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<td>Buick 2008 Enclave CXL AWD</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Sunroof, DVD, Bluetooth &amp; More Loaded!</td>
<td>40K Miles</td>
<td>$17,990</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nissan 2012 Versa SL</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Bluetooth, Satellite Ready, Great On Gas! Perfect!</td>
<td>40K Miles</td>
<td>$13,995</td>
<td>888-638-5096</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Harris is the first freshman to start for Dons under Hennessey

Offensive lineman working to improve his fitness outside of practice

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
For Sun-Times Media, @VanDrilSports

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS — Mike Hennessey has been the Notre Dame football coach for 27 years and he said that, until this year, not once had a freshman started on the Dons' varsity squad during his tenure.

Freshman right guard Juan Harris broke that streak. Harris is a true outlier. He’s listed at 6-foot-4 and 340 pounds — he’s the team’s heaviest player by 55 pounds — but he possesses the strong hands and nimble feet needed to be a successful interior lineman.

Harris has “size that’s unbelievable (and) he’s got great feet,” said Hennessey, adding that Notre Dame’s staff has focused on “having him be consistent, having him play within the game and learning the nuances of varsity football.

That’s really important. He’s a great student of the game. He’s a kid that really wants it, even at this early age. We’re going to take good care of him and make sure he gets there.”

Harris, despite possessing physical attributes rarely seen among freshmen, said the initial weeks of varsity football were difficult for him. He said he felt a lot of pressure as he tried to understand his on-field assignments and compete against older players who were battling to keep their starting spots on the offensive line.

Harris, a Chicago resident who’s the nephew of former Chicago Bears defensive tackle Tommie Harris, has tried to improve upon his conditioning. He said he initially struggled with the strenuous aspects of practice like running sprints, pushing the sled and running plays with the offense.

Harris has taken his fitness into his own hands by running a mile each day and doing sprints after practice.

“You can’t be lazy about it,” said Harris, who chose to attend Notre Dame over Gordon Tech, Nazareth and Mount Carmel. “You’ve got to try to push yourself. You’ve got to want to do it. You’ve got to (project) the future in your head, and you really can’t just sit back and not want to do it and then think it’s going to come to you. You have to work toward everything you (want).”

Harris has been joined by senior right tackle Jonah Nilson on the right side of the Dons’ offensive line. Nilson is listed at 6-foot-6 and 210 pounds, and he played center until this year. They both said they struggled to comprehend their assignments during the first weeks of the season. That’s improved as the season has progressed, however, in part because they’re constantly talking to each other on the field.

“We communicate the whole time,” said Nilson, who lives in Chicago’s Sauganash neighborhood. “We talk about zone right, zone left. When we’re running up to the line, we say what we’re supposed to do.”

The entire Notre Dame defense seemed to play well against the Lions, but Pat Cravens stood out on both sides of the ball. The 5-foot-11 senior was the Dons’ most reliable receiver, hauling in six passes for 69 yards. He also provided the knockout blow when, on St. Viator’s first possession after McDonaugh’s interception, he picked off an errant pass and returned it about 80 yards for a touchdown.

BY THE NUMBERS

The Lions (3-2, 1-2) did a good job of containing Notre Dame senior running back Chris James. James finished Friday night’s game with 106 yards on 28 carries, but he did have 68 yards in the second half.

QUOTABLE

“We talked about being consistent and being resilient. We knew, in a game like this, there were going to be some ups and downs. ... They responded unbelievably. They played their hearts out, got two good picks and, when we needed to put the game away offensively, we did.” — Notre Dame coach Mike Hennessey
Vikings supporting each other following their coach’s death

BY BRENDAN BOND
For Sun-Times Media, @bbond32

The CSL Quadrangular hosted by Niles North on Sept. 24 was the third race for the Niles North boys cross country team since coach Dan Horyn died from cancer. His replacement, Dave Shafron, said the team members are coping with Horyn's death the best way they know how.

"They’re coping with it by investing their full efforts into everything," Shafron said. "They’re executing all of Dan’s teachings and values and are just representing him through their camaraderie with each other and their passion for the sport."

Junior Nebil Mohammed, who along with junior Dhruvil Patel has given the Vikings a consistent 1-2 punch, said the team has grown closer over the past few weeks.

“We try to talk together as a team,” Mohammed said. “And we look to support each other all the time.”

Small roster

Maine East girls coach Alyssa Carter’s squad suffers from a lack of numbers. The team competed with only four girls at the quad. Because a team needs five girls to officially score, Maine East lost all three matchups and Leslie Christiansen’s seventh-place time of 20:54 did not count toward a team score.

"It’s pretty tough to have such a small squad,” Carter said. “We have to be very careful with them because we don’t want to injure them."

Strong showing

Though coach Andy Swedberg figured his Niles North girls squad would struggle in the quadrangular meet it hosted last week, he was pleased by his team’s 2-1 result.

"I thought it was a good performance for us," Swedberg said, "especially since we’ve had a tough past week of workouts."

Swedberg said the whole team has been performing well in the workouts, but Trinette Lopez has stood out.

Maine East boys coach Chris Peters believes his inexperienced team is making progress. Despite going 0-3 in the Quadrangular, Peters has been encouraged by some individual performances.

"Eric (Ponzetti) ran really well and was competitive," Peters said. "And Josh Madsen ran well, too."

Along with Ponzetti and Madsen, who finished 15th and 20th, respectively, fellow junior Noel Rathod has also been a leader for Peters.
NORTHBROOK — Playing for the first time since suffering a knee sprain in the season opener, Maine East senior running back Christian Lopez admitted there were some nerves prior to playing Glenbrook North.

With a depleted lineup, Lopez started at quarterback Friday night against the Spartans in the Blue Demons’ CSL North opener. Lopez mostly took the handoffs for runs, as Maine West (1-0) outscored Maine East (0-1) 56-20.

"I think my nerves got to me," he said. "I had butterflies all day. I felt like I wanted to throw up. I just didn’t know what to expect playing quarterback. I’ve never done that before."

Sophomore Woody Corey replaced Lopez under center in the second half and had a bit more success moving the ball.

"Christian was more in his element," Gabe Corey said of shifting Lopez back to his true position. "He’s a tailback, not a quarterback."

In a season that Gabe Corey said he believed could be the start of something special for the Blue Demons program, injuries have taken their toll on the squad. Senior fullback and linebacker Javed Lukovic was the latest to go down after needing to be helped off the field in Friday’s loss.

Lukovic said Sunday he re-injured an ankle that kept him sidelined the previous game, but he added that he expected to play this week.

With Maine East (2-3 overall, 0-1 conference) having lost its third straight, the Blue Demons are eager to right themselves. They play host to Niles North on Friday. Having Lopez back is a step in the right direction, according to Lukovic.

"It was a great lift," Lukovic said. "He adds another dimension to our offense that we really need. We all love blocking for Christian because he can bust out a big play at any moment."

That was certainly true Friday as Lopez ripped off touchdown runs of 73- and a 69-yard touchdown Friday. He also had more than 100 yards on the ground. He finished the night with 111 yards.

"We were very fortunate, but that being said, Noah Swanson, what a play" — Niles North coach Mark Egofose

— Nick Amatangelo
Mihulet's colorful cleats, play attracting attention
Wolves senior has four interceptions through five games

BY MATT HARNESS
mharness@pioneerlocal.com, @harnesspreps

SKOKIE — It is easy to find Andrew Mihulet on the football field. He probably could be spotted in the dark. He's the one wearing the neon-colored cleats.

Mihulet didn't lose a bet, either. In fact, he customized the shoes himself, using an online program called Nike ID.

"I was going to get the standard red and black," Mihulet said of Niles West's team colors. "But it's my senior year, so I decided to go with some funky colors. I love them.

Same goes for his teammates. According to Mihulet, he already has offers from people who want to buy them once the season ends.

Fancy footwear isn't the only thing that makes Mihulet stand out.

The second-year varsity player is a starter on offense, defense and special teams, is one interception away from tying the program's single-season record. In fact, he customized the shoes himself, using an online program called Nike ID.

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Round into shape
Lopez leads Vikings to 2-1 record at home quad

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FASHION EVENT

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