Whole new grocery store

Whole Foods debuts at Touhy and Washington in Park Ridge | PAGE 23
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A high school teacher from Naperville is fundraising $2,600 to replace the annual sponsorships that American Legion Post 134 is withholding from the Morton Grove Park District.

Post Cmdr. Joseph Lampert told the park board Oct. 24 that no money will be provided until all members of the board, specifically Commissioner Dan Ashta, stand for the Pledge of Allegiance out of respect for veterans and fallen servicemen.

Ashta maintains that he’s defending the public’s 1st Amendment right to not participate for whatever political, religious or physical reason a person might have.

A media storm erupted after the confrontation and Hemant Mehta of Naperville found several of those stories while browsing the web for topics he could blog about on his website, friendlyatheist.com.

“It’s not like Mr. Ashta is saying, ‘I’m an atheist and I oppose the under God portion of the pledge,’” Mehta said. “I would say that though, and he’s showing respect for my right to do it even though he might not agree with me.”

Along the same line, Mehta said Ashta is admirable for not challenging people who do stand for the pledge.

“This guy is not unpatriotic, he’s quite the opposite,” Mehta said. “He’s an elected official chosen by citizens in his community, and I doubt that every single person in Morton Grove is able-bodied, Christian and completely satisfied with their government. He’s reminding everyone that government is open to all. That’s about as patriotic as it gets.”

Ashta posted a blog Oct. 30 praising Ashta, and asked his readers for donations to replace the Legion’s $2,600. As of Nov. 5, $3,032 had been donated to Mehta’s “We support Dan Ashta’s Pledge Protest” account on gofundme.com.

Other bloggers from throughout the country, however, started labeling Ashta as an aggressive atheist. Mehta and Ashta don’t know each other, so Ashta couldn’t understand why some of his hate mail referred to him as an insensitive atheist.

Ashta’s public response to the confrontation is American. I don’t think Morton Grove should be embarrassed,” Ashta said.

“I’ve had a lot of people giving me their opinions, which is fine, but nobody has told me that my legal interpretation is wrong,” Ashta said. “Fostering debate is American. I don’t think discussing this topic has hurt the park district.”

The next park board meeting is Nov. 21. Ashta said he hasn’t decided what to do when the pledge is called for on that day.

Many of the emails Ashta has received have been unpleasant, but he claims the responses have been half positive and half negative.

“I’ve received a significant amount of emails from people all over, but not an amount beyond my capability to respond,” Ashta said. “I’ve spent a lot of time replying to people who didn’t excessively swear at me.”

Ashta said he’s not received any death or physical threats.

Some of the responses asked Ashta to at least stand out of respect, even if he doesn’t speak the words.

“People have said standing up shows respect and sitting down is disrespectful,” Ashta said. “Signs of respect and disrespect are messages, and my interpretation is that conduct is protected under the 1st Amendment.”

Ashta said he has not asked for the pledge to be taken off future agendas because he doesn’t want to stop people who do want to say it.

“I’ve had a lot of people giving me their opinions, which is fine, but nobody has told me that my legal interpretation is wrong,” Ashta said.

“Nobody has constructed a different constitutional interpretation. Government is and should be a completely open forum for everyone.”
Niles trustees butt heads over term limit referenda

BY NATASHA WASINSKI
For Sun-Times Media | @natwaz

Tensions mounted over how to reconcile Niles' conflicting term-limit referenda during a Village Board discussion on the need for a judicial review.

On Oct. 22, Trustee Rosemary Palicki once again appealed to her colleagues to let the courts decide the validity of a citizen-backed petition. "A decision needs to be made but it cannot be made by this board," she stated.

In last April's election, a majority of residents cast "yes" votes to two separate referenda: one to limit service on the Village Board to 16 years, and another to allow trustees to serve up to 16 years, and the mayor to serve up to 12 years.

The latter, put forth by the village, went into effect upon voter approval.

The citizens' petition, however, was ambiguous and did not contain wording that made it self-executing, according to two legal opinions obtained and paid for by the village. The combined cost for the services was approximately $5,140.

Some officials vocalized not wanting to spend additional resources on settling the issue in court, particularly the estimated $600 filing fee and Village Attorney Joe Annunzio's time.

But Palicki, with support from Chris Hanusiak, said a judicial review would hold more weight.

"To me, that is worth every single penny," Palicki said. "Financially, it would be beneficial for us to try to avoid a lawsuit."

Unconvinced the village should use additional village funds, Mayor Andrew Przybylo suggested seeking an opinion from the State's Attorney's Office.

Palicki noted unless a decision by state authorities was binding, Niles board officials could find themselves back in the same position.

Trustee Joe LoVerde reiterated his belief that, on a fundamental level, the village had no obligation to take further action. He said Niles resident Joe Makula, who organized the citizens' petition, should be the one settling the matter through the appropriate legal channels, if he so desired.

LoVerde also worried about potentially "astronomical" legal fees, especially if Przybylo was found ineligible to hold office.

Prior to becoming mayor this spring, Przybylo had served on the board since 1989.

"Mr. Makula should have finished what he started, not the Niles board," LoVerde said.

George Alpogianis agreed.

"I don't think it's our responsibility to pick up the pieces," Alpogianis said. "I don't see any citizens coming to our doors and telling us to fight it."

Makula has not spoken at public meetings on the referendum conflict since the Village Board reorganized.

Palicki called comments about Makula not following through "insulting."

"If we're going to put shame on anyone, shame on the board of trustees for not stating (the village's referendum) was self-executing," she said.

Board newcomer Danette O'Donovan Matyas interrupted the volley of clashing opinions to inquire why the Village Board had put forth its own ballot question after Makula submitted his.

Palicki, a trustee at the time, said she believed officials "felt there were certain parts of the (citizen) referendum that were being presented that we didn't support."

Ultimately, the Village Board rejected a motion to obtain a judge's ruling by a 4-2 vote, but damage had already been done for LoVerde.

During a call for public comment at the end of the meeting, he unexpectedly left his seat at the dais and delivered his grievances from the podium.

"I typically don't do this but it has been a somewhat irritating night," LoVerde began before criticizing Palicki for allegedly overstepping traditional rules of order and making a debate out of his viewpoints.

"You do not have to correct me, I know parliamentary procedure," he said, addressing Palicki directly. "We don't have to comment on other people's opinions."

Palicki followed suit and moved to the podium to deliver a one-sentence rebuttal.

"I stand 100 percent by my original statements," she stated.

"Niles, the future of awesome"
PARK RIDGE

Officer saves suicidal man from oncoming train

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
johnson@pioneerlocal.com | @Jen_Pioneer

A Park Ridge police officer is being lauded as a hero for pulling a suicidal man out of the path of a commuter train in Uptown on Oct. 30 — just one day after another man committed suicide in the same area.

With a speeding, Chicago-bound express train approaching, Officer Carlos Panizo ran onto the railroad tracks near the Uptown Metra station and grabbed the 42-year-old Chicago man by his jacket after the man reportedly laid down on the center track.

The man, now aware of an incoming train, laid down on the tracks and took his hand out of his coat — an action that led Panizo to quickly determine he was not holding a gun. "He was almost in a crucifixion pose," Panizo said as he described how the man's arms were extended outward while he laid on his back. "At that point I thought, 'He doesn't have a gun — or if he does, it's going to take time to get him off the tracks.' I approached him from behind, grabbed him by his shoulders and started dragging him. He was just dead weight at that point."

Panizo and Abbinante secured the man's arms and handcuffed him as back-up officers arrived and an ambulance was called. "It was a bit eerie that when we finally had him, he wasn't saying anything," Panizo recalled. "I asked him his name, he told me, 'Bill,' and I said we were going to get him some help, but he didn't say anything after that. He was very loud and expressive when we got there, but then when he was in handcuffs, he was eerily quiet."

"It was almost like he was relieved — that it was out of his hands now," Abbinante added.

A search of the man revealed a wallet and a phone — but no gun or other weapon, reports state. He was also wearing three sweatshirts under his thick coat, Abbinante noted.

He was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge for a mental health evaluation.

The stand-off and rescue occurred just a week after the two officers took part in a training exercise that put them in virtual situations with armed or potentially armed suspects.

"It seems like a lot of our job is being social worker and psychologist, more than law enforcement," agreed Abbinante.

"Even though it's not real, it still mentally prepares you for those encounters so you're calm enough to figure out what to do," he said.

Park Ridge Police Chief Frank Kaminski said Panizo and Abbinante are under consideration for an Award of Valor, the highest honor given by the police department.

"It was very heroic," Kaminski said of the rescue. "It really shows the professionalism of the officers."

Deputy Police Chief David Keller said as much as the incident exemplifies the heroic response of a police officer, it is also another example of the mental-health issues that police must commonly deal with, including what he says is a disturbing national trend in "suicide by cop" cases where individuals use a weapon or the threat of a weapon to get a police officer to shoot and kill them.

"This is the kind of thing that his guy probably wanted us to do at first and when we didn't (shoot him), he lay down on the tracks," Keller said.

"It seems like a lot of our job is being social worker and psychologist, more than law enforcement," agreed Abbinante.

Just the day before, a 34-year-old Schaumburg man was killed when he was struck by an outbound express train just north of the Uptown Metra Station near Touhy Avenue during rush hour. The Cook County Medical Examiner's office ruled the man's death a suicide.
Library policy says projectionist needed high school diploma

BY RICK KAMBIC
rkambic@pioneerlocal.com | @rick_kambic

A high school diploma or equivalent is required for the projectionist job at the Morton Grove Library, a recently-discovered fact that has brought frustration back to the surface for trustees who objected to a 16-year-old employee showing R-rated movies this summer.

Scrutiny in both public and closed meetings eventually led to library trustees pushing a new policy that requires future projectionists to be at least 17 years old. A Freedom of Information Act request for both the original and revised job descriptions revealed the age-implied requirement in both versions.

“The board first had a moral objection to this, but now knowing there is a policy already addressing our maturity-related concerns, why did they fight it?” Trustee Cathy Peters said of Board President Mark Albers and Library Director Pam Leffler.

“One week after I was elected, I was surprised the public library in our town wanted to hire a 16-year-old to work in my own town’s library,” Peters said. “I was surprised they let her work at all.”

Albers said the board was “surprised” to learn the policy requirement was not mentioned during any of the debates.

“If we were ever going to hire someone younger than 17, it would be a high school junior or senior who showed they were mature enough for the job,” Albers said.

The high school diploma requirement was not mentioned during any of the debates.

“With the maturity level and qualifications of this employee for this particular position, we felt comfortable waiving the high school diploma requirement,” Leffler said after completing the FOIA request.

The employee in question eventually quit working at the library, but Albers continues to stand behind the teenager and Leffler’s decision to hire her.

“I trust the library director to run the day-to-day operations of the library and she does this extremely well,” Albers said. “Is it possible a trustee went beyond the scope of their position; some may say yes and others no. It was a learning experience for the involved trustees and I hope this matter is behind us.”

When the situation first erupted, Trustee Barbara Novick was worried about nepotism since the teenage employee was related to another staff member. While Peters says she’s still frazzled over why this situation was allowed to get out of hand, she does not believe nepotism fueled management’s defense of the girl.

“I stand by what I did and my morals, which is no reflection on the girl, but money was spent unnecessarily when we should have just followed our own rules,” Peters said.

“The intransigence of their response is what bothers me,” Frank Tennant, the library’s attorney, was paid $342 for nearly two hours of work in April, $612 in May, and $810 in June. Invoices say most of the hours involved attending regular board meetings, reviewing meeting minutes and preparation of a new ordinance each month.

Tennant then billed the library for $594 (32 hours) in July, covering their monthly meeting and several redacted correspondences, and then $1,055 (575 hours) in August, for three redacted correspondences, attending the monthly meeting and for preparing a presentation on the roles and duties of a trustee.

Throughout those same two months, the library was also under scrutiny for not bidding a $35,800 furnace replacement according to state law.
The following incidents were listed in the reports of the Park Ridge and Niles police departments. Readers are reminded that an arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

**PARK RIDGE**

**THEFT**
A 16-year-old Des Plaines girl was charged with theft on Oct. 28 after she was accused of stealing a phone from Maine East High School, 2601 W. Dempster St. The teen paid restitution of $665 for the phone and is awaiting an appearance before the Park Ridge Peer Jury, police said.

**DRUG POSSESSION**
Cesar Cruz, 19, of the first block of Main Street, Mount Prospect, was charged with possession of marijuana on Oct. 28 after police noticed a parked vehicle that appeared suspicious near Hamlin Avenue and Oakton Street at 8:20 p.m. He was released on his own recognizance and assigned a Nov. 12 adjudication hearing date.

**UNDERAGE DRINKING**
William Mendez, 18, of the 100 block of East Avenue, Park Ridge, was charged with underage drinking on the morning of Nov. 2. Police said Mendez's mother reported that her son had returned home intoxicated and was "acting irrational." He was released on his own recognizance and assigned a Dec. 10 adjudication hearing date.

**CRIME BRIEFS**

**THEFT**
A 32-year-old man told police his motorcycle was stolen between 11 p.m., Oct. 26 and 3:15 a.m., Oct. 27 after he left it parked in a lot on the 800 block of Milwaukee Avenue. According to police, the man said he had visited a bar that night and got a ride from a friend, which was the reason he left the motorcycle behind.

**PARK RIDGE**

**BURGLARY**
Two men were seen running out of an unlocked garage just after 1 a.m., Oct. 27, on the 200 block of Gillick Street. A vehicle parked inside had been rummaged through, but nothing was taken.

**THEFT**
Between Oct. 25 and Oct. 26, a tire was slashed on a pickup truck parked in a driveway on the 400 block of South Lincoln Avenue. A 2009 Ford Escape was stolen overnight between Oct. 26 and Oct. 27 from the 800 block of South Chester Avenue.

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It's back to the drawing board for Park Ridge-Niles District 64 administrators to figure out how to retrieve unpaid student fees. The school board on Oct. 28 rejected a proposal to hire a collection agency next spring, in favor of a plan that first exhausts all administrative options. Since alerting officials in September that 20 percent of student accounts were delinquent at the start of the school year, District 64 has collected roughly $47,300 of the $168,800 it is owed. Administrators suspect more bills were paid due in part to the invoice that was sent Sept. 30. The district previously only mailed past-due statements on a quarterly basis. In addition to monthly reminders, officials are requesting that the business office be more transparent and diligent in its efforts to collect. The number of outstanding balances at the district's seven schools and its special-needs preschool has increased steadily for the past three years. In the 2011-12 school year, $40,952 in fees for 157 pupils went unpaid. Last year the number of outstanding balances rose to 198, for a total loss of $52,668. As of Oct. 17, mandatory fees for 525 students have gone unpaid, for a total revenue loss of $121,037. Though the school board was split on how to go about retrieving the fees, all officials acknowledged some action needed to be taken to keep families accountable. Using a third-party vendor would cost approximately $3,000 per year, reported Assistant Business Manager Brian Imhoff. He explained the type of actions a collection agency would take on behalf of District 64 — such as placing holds on accounts or involving the courts — is at the discretion of officials. "The only way to get people to pay for their bills is you have to go after their credit history," Board President Anthony Borrelli pointed out. District 64 doesn't have a formal program in place for payment plans, but families can pay the fees in installments by request. Imhoff said the option for multiple payments isn't publicized for fear of revenue streams slowing down. "We set that Aug. 1 deadline so that we can get the registration fees up front at the beginning of the school year," he said. "We just have felt that if we had advertised that program, and made it open to everyone, then no one is going to pay money up front." A majority of officials agreed that communicating billing options more clearly would be a first step in the right direction. But Vice President Scott Zimmerman said he was unsure about wanting to "bend over backwards to make it easier for people to claim hardship." "The vast majority of people are paying these bills," he said. "I think it's unfair to subsidize others on their behalf." Board member John Heyde also didn't favor discounts for on-time payers or pushing payment plans since "people who have means would take advantage." He said the backlog of delinquent account-holders should also receive a final notice from the district about unpaid bills before being referred to collections. Some board members inquired whether they could review the names on past-due accounts. Superintendent Philip Bender relayed that, based on conversations with leaders of the schools' parent-teacher organizations, people have the ability to pay the fees but are frustrated at not knowing what their money actually supports. As a result, some families are simply refusing to pay, said Franklin School PTA Co-President Noreen Hart. "We pay more than double (the amount in fees) than any district surrounding us, but yet when you ask for a breakdown of the fees, it doesn't exist," Hart said. According to its website, District 64 assesses additional fees for various school activities and supplies like textbooks, technology and extracurricular and elective programming.

District 64 parents boycotting school fees, PTA president says

The piling up of unpaid student fees at Park Ridge-Niles District 64 might not be the result of hardship, but instead the result of parents' frustration. Because it's not clear what the money funds, some families have flat-out refused to pay the mandatory dues, residents claim. "I know it (is happening)," reported Franklin School PTA Co-President Noreen Hart. "I know it for a fact." The district administration in September reported a growing trend in the number of outstanding balances at all eight schools and programs. As of Oct. 17, mandatory fees for 525 students have gone unpaid, for a total revenue loss of $121,037. That amount is in addition to the roughly $94,000 owed to District 64 for the prior two school years.

Student fees are due annually by Aug. 1. The average amount owed per child this year is $260. Yet officials grappling with how to collect the debts seemingly have another problem on their hands. Hart said the district's inability to provide details about the required blanket fees have created a backlash.

As the mother of four, she pays District 64 over a $1,000 a year, although for what, she couldn't say. "I'm supposed to write a check and not ask where it's going?" Hart said. "That's all I want to know — what is it for?"

Park Ridge resident George Korovilas echoed her concerns. "They don't have a breakdown of those student fees," he said. "That's why parents are starting to get really upset." Max Fadin, whose son attends Franklin, said he is bewildered by the vague replies offered by school leaders about the fee schedule. "If it goes toward paying for certain laptops or iPads, that's understandable," he said. "But no one tells you what it is."

He said parents also want to know how a public school district funded by taxpayer dollars has out-of-pocket costs. There are even rumbles over whether or not the fees are legal. "It's sort of suspicious why a family of four is paying a thousand dollars when they already pay $20,000 in taxes," Fadin said.

District 64's primary source of revenue is local property taxes. But, like most public school systems, the district assesses additional fees for various school activities and supplies. The mandatory fee for kindergarten is $84. At the elementary level, the $227 per-pupil fee goes toward costs associated with "textbooks, supplies, technology and activities," according to the district's website.

The yearly charge for middle-schoolers is more, at $315, in order to also cover "electives and extracurriculars." The fee notices that get sent home, as well as the district's website, do not detail what the aforementioned programs and materials are, nor how much each costs.

However, the website makes it clear that "as a guiding principle, student fees are assessed to defray costs, not to 'make a profit.'" District 64 budgeted to collect $919,700 in registration fees for 2013-14. Additional fees, such as those for lunch and field trips, put the collective student fee projection at $1.56 million. Korovilas noted all three of his kids' accounts are paid up — for now.

"But," he added, "I won't pay next year. I want to know what I'm paying for."
District 219 scores improve slightly, but still far short of federal standards

BY NATALIE HAYES
For Sun-Times Media | @NatHayReporter

Niles North and Niles West High Schools in Skokie's Niles Township District 219 had reading and math scores this year that were slightly above state averages, according to results released last week.

District 219's reading scores on the Prairie State Assessment Exam (PSAE) — an exam all Illinois 11th graders take each spring — jumped by two points from last year to 159. Math scores stayed the same from last year to 159. Math scores this year that were readiness levels for college enrollment in AP courses at District 219, said individualized learning plans have been used in District 219 schools for a number of years, and that the system has some success. "It's a reality check for students in that it keeps track of what they need to do to get to the point of reaching their goals," Roloff said. "A continuing focus on college readiness helps students focus and be motivated toward achieving higher test scores."

Anne Roloff, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction at District 219, said, "We do everything we can to move our students to more challenging coursework and provide everything needed to educate our students and parents on the need to take AP courses."

District 219 also has implemented an individualized learning plan for each student that lets parents, teachers and the student track current academic statuses and plan future goals for growth.

Roloff said individualized learning plans have been used in District 219 schools for a number of years, and that the system has some success.

"It's a reality check for students in that it keeps track of what they need to do to get to the point of reaching their goals," Roloff said. "A continuing focus on college readiness helps students focus and be motivated toward achieving higher test scores."

Chicago police say a man tried to lure a 12-year-old boy to his car while the boy was walking along Touhy Avenue near Niles.

The boy was on the north side of the 6000 block of West Touhy Avenue, west of Lehigh Avenue, around 2 p.m., Oct. 27, when he was approached by a man who asked him for money, police said.

The boy told police that the man then asked for directions to the CTA Red Line, located six miles away, and asked him if he wanted candy. When the boy refused, the man allegedly asked, "Are you sure? My car is right over there," an alert from the Chicago Police Department said.

The boy ran across the street to the Niles Target store where he called his mother, police said.
Police to direct traffic outside Whole Foods store

With large crowds anticipated for the grand opening of the new Park Ridge Whole Foods Market this weekend, police will be on hand to direct traffic in the area through the weekend.

Park Ridge Police Chief Frank Kaminski said officers will be stationed at the store's entrances along Touhy Avenue and Washington Avenue, at the intersection of Touhy and Washington, and at North West Highway and Washington. Traffic will be directed during regular store hours from opening day on Wednesday, Nov. 6 through Sunday, Nov. 10.

The traffic detail will come at no cost to the city, as Whole Foods will be footing the bill, said City Manager Shawn Hamilton. "We'll reevaluate after Sunday and see how things are going," he said.

When zoning for the Whole Foods store was initially considered in 2012, residents living in the immediate area had expressed concerns about increased traffic congestion on Touhy Avenue and cut-through traffic on side streets like Berry Parkway to the east.

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PARK RIDGE

Veterans Day ceremony planned in Uptown

The members and friends of Mel Tierney American Legion Post 247 will observe Veterans Day with a memorial service at the American Legion Veterans Monument in Park Ridge's Hodges Park, at Courtland and Vine avenues.

The ceremony, which will include a rifle salute, will take place at 11 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 11.

Post Commander Martin Johnson will lead the service, assisted by Senior Vice Commander Donald Mellema, St. Paul of the Cross Deacon Al Memmel and trumpet player Richard Wacker, who will perform "Taps.

Veterans, their families and members of the public are invited to observe and participate in the ceremony. The monument where it will be held commemorates those more than 80 Park Ridge residents who died during military service in World War I, World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

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MAINE TOWNSHIP

Police departments collecting coats for needy

The Park Ridge, Des Plaines and Niles Police Departments are again partnering to collect coats for low-income area families.

Clean, gently worn coats and jackets will be collected at each department through Tuesday, Nov. 12. A drop box is located in the lobby of each police department and coats can be donated 24 hours a day.

Locations include 200 S. Vine Ave. in Park Ridge; 7000 W. Touhy Ave. in Niles; and 1420 Miner St. in Des Plaines.

The coats that are collected will be distributed to Maine Township families in need on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Rd. in Park Ridge.

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PARK RIDGE

City Council approves new fire hydrants

The Park Ridge City Council on Oct. 21 approved the purchase of the hydrants from Water Products Co., of Aurora for $31,704. The company was one of three that submitted bids for hydrants and was the lowest bidder, according to a memo from Park Ridge Director of Public Works Wayne Zingsheim.

The city ended up paying $443 less than the original bid of $32,147 from Elk Grove Village-based Ziegler Water Service Product. That bid was rejected by the council on Sept. 16 by a vote of 4-2.

Sixth Ward Ald. Marc Mazzucco had made the motion to reject the initial bid, saying it was much higher than what the city of Charleston, S.C. had recently paid for hydrants. He was also unhappy that the city had only received one complete bid.

"Casting a wider net did pay off," he said during the Oct. 21 meeting where the new, $31,704 bid was voted upon. "We did get something better than we had before."
Airline passenger paid for more leg room but got stuck in back of plane

Dear Help Squad,

I recently experienced problems with seat assignments on United Airlines. Economy Plus seats were purchased on March 26, 2013 for a July flight from Chicago to Denver. Both our seats were occupied when we boarded the plane. The manifest shows that I was in Economy Plus, but my boarding pass shows “30F window” which is where I sat.

United Airlines will not refund the price difference even though I spoke with customer service three times and faxed information twice as instructed. The refund department continues to deny me a refund of $39.00.

The remainder of the trip was without problems. I have saved receipts and boarding passes.

Gratefully,
M. Patricia Nooney, Skokie

Dear Patricia,

Despite having to sit in the back of the plane and in a smaller seat for your flight to Denver, we at Help Squad hope you had a great trip! You’ll be happy to know that we contacted customer service at United, and they will be refunding your $39 and issuing a credit on your card that will show up within 7-10 business days.

What we were curious to know is, why did you originally choose to fly Economy Plus? Is it worth the $39?

Wanting answers to these and other questions about airline “incidentals,” meaning all the little extras that airlines now charge for the second. JetBlue and Southwest both give you the first checked bag for free, Delta charge $25 for the first bag, $35 for the second. JetBlue and Southwest both give you the first checked bag for free.

6. Baggage check: Although many people don’t consider bringing a suitcase a luxury, baggage check is extra on most airlines these days. American, United, US Airways and Delta charge $25 for the first bag, $35 for the second. JetBlue and Southwest both give you the first checked bag for free.

7. Credit cards: Most airlines offer several credit card options that give you miles and other airline perks. There’s the Advantage World Elite Mastercard, which gives you 80,000 miles after you make $1,000 in purchases in the first three months. If you go with the United Mileage Plus Explorer card, you get 30,000 bonus miles, a $50 credit after your first purchase, and no annual fee for the first year. With all these cards, you’re earning miles with every purchase.

8. In-flight Internet service: Need to check your email or get some work done that requires the Internet during your flight? Most airlines use Gogo, an in-air Internet service. You log in, enter your credit card info, and you’re online. The cost is $5 for 30 minutes or $10 for 90 minutes, which includes a free in-flight movie.

1. One-day guest pass to the airline’s “club”: If you’re one of those people who gets to the airport hours before your flight, you might want to invest in a guest pass to the exclusive club of the airline you are flying. For example, the United Club, which is the airport lounge of United Airlines, offers the United Mileage Plus Explorer card, you get the first checked bag for free, and Delta charge $25 for the first bag, $35 for the second. JetBlue and Southwest both give you the first checked bag for free.

2. Early boarding: Can you believe you can actually pay to board the flight earlier? The cost depends on the flight, but it is usually around $25.

3. Food: Peanuts and little bags of pretzels have been off the airlines’ list of complimentary in-flight amenities for awhile. Prices for food and drinks vary depending on the airline, but snacks start at $3.29 on American Airlines, and food can go up to $12 on some carriers. Beer, wine and other spirits are typically between $5 and $7.

4. Entertainment: Remember when movies used to be free on flights? Not anymore. Here are some options. United offers DirecTV with more than 100 channels. It’s free for first class, but if you’re in coach, it will cost you $5.99 to $7.99. Movies on JetBlue are $5.99, but free outside the US, and movies on Delta are $6.

5. Baggage check: Although many people don’t consider bringing a suitcase a luxury, baggage check is extra on most airlines these days. American, United, US Airways and Delta charge $25 for the first bag, $35 for the second. JetBlue and Southwest both give you the first checked bag for free.

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7. In-flight Internet service: Need to check your email or get some work done that requires the Internet during your flight? Most airlines use Gogo, an in-air Internet service. You log in, enter your credit card info, and you’re online. The cost is $5 for 30 minutes or $10 for 90 minutes, which includes a free in-flight movie.

8. Seat upgrade: In Patricia’s case, Economy Plus cost her $39. These charges vary on every flight, depending on airline availability and length of the flight. And, if you enjoy that six inches more leg room, you can have it on all your United flights by purchasing an annual subscription for Economy Plus. The cost is $49 per year.
Halloween's over — Bury the hatchet for the holidays

BY PAUL SASSONE

W ell, that's over. Now that Halloween has come and gone, we can start getting ready for the heavy-hitting holidays of November and December.

From now on, you'll be bombarded with tips on how to cook for the holidays, how to decorate for the holidays, how to pay for the holidays.

But only here will you find tips for the absolute most important component of holiday enjoyment — how not to wind up at your loved ones' throats.

Nothing is more holiday-defeating than some family member sulking or not speaking to other members. And it happens.

But there are ways to avoid contributing to bad holiday spirit:

Response to invitations, dummy: Not responding is a tried-and-true recipe for creating holiday conflicts. See, the way it works is that they feed you for free. All you have to do is let them know whether you are coming. I shouldn't have to tell you stuff like this.

Like the gift you are given, even if you don't: OK, OK, so you wanted the audio book, "Kardashian Confidential," but they gave you "The Complete Works of St. Augustine."

You'll only hurt the giver's feelings if you pout.

Eat almost to the point of, um, indelicacy. They went to a lot of trouble and expense to cook dinner for you. So when they proudly say, "I tried a new stuffing recipe this year, rye bread, kidneys and just a whisper of vanilla extract. Have some more." You say, "Yum," and hold out your plate.

Let bygones be bygones. So, you were the oldest and had to take care of your brothers and sisters. So, you were the middle child and didn't get the attention the first-born did. So, you were the youngest and had to make do with a hand-me-down bike. Grow up.

Stop poisoning the present with long-past grievances.

Human beings are mortal. This is most important and the underlying reason behind all of the above. In 10 years, or five years, or even next year, there may be fewer people at the holiday table. And that will be painful. But even more painful will be the memory of loved ones if that memory is soured by what you too-late realize were trivial piques and resentments.

Regret is not a pleasant holiday companion.

Food and gifts are ephemeral. Family is permanent. And our feelings about family are always with us.

Whether those feelings are warm or painful is up to us.

It's something to think about as the holidays approach.

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Poor students doomed from the start

BY RANDY BLASER

B y the time children begin school, is their academic fate already set? I've been wondering that over the last few weeks in light of two recent news reports.

Last week, the Illinois Schools Report Card was released. The big news? Student performance on state tests has dropped compared to last year because the state has toughened the standards.

The other news from a few weeks ago announced that researchers believe children born to poor families start school far behind their more affluent peers. Why? Because poor children grow up in a household where they hear fewer words and less complex word groupings.

This lack of exposure to a wider vocabulary hampers them through their academic career, and the difference creates what experts call a "word deficit" by the time the children reach school age.

How are the two events — the results of the study and release of the state report card — related?

One statistic revealed in the school report that you won't see in many news stories that simply report on the high and low performing schools is this: Half of all public school students in Illinois are from low-income families.

Let me repeat: 50 percent of public school children in Illinois are poor. And, according to research, they start their academic careers behind the other 50 percent because they have heard fewer words growing up.

If that is true, than this explains something that has bothered me for a long time and is never explained or explored by the press.

The purpose of the Illinois Schools Report Card to give everyone a measuring stick to help improve student performance. Yet, in the more than 25 years since the report card's inception, and decades of everyone talking about better schools, student performance hardly seems to change. Students pretty much seem to end up at the end of 12 years where they started.

Maybe the answer to improving academic performance is to take the poor half of kids before they start school and just have adults talk to them, read books to them and sing songs with them. Parents should be instructed that if they want their children to be good students in fifth grade, then you need to talk to them, read to them and sing with them.

But what about the kids already in school who are behind and seemingly destined to always be behind?

I'm for tutoring. I say give the parents vouchers for after-school tutoring at places like Kumon or Sylvan Learning Center or Britannica Learning Center. Affluent parents send their kids to these places when they fall behind or their performance is not satisfactory (to the parent.) Why not give poor families the same opportunity?

My plan has something for the liberals (early childhood education) and something for the conservatives (vouchers) and is therefore doomed to failure.

Today's politicians, who control funding for these type of decisions, would rather win than solve a problem. So we'll just continue on the path we're on, and doom another couple generations of kids to failure.
Congrats to American Legion for standing up for pledge

I would like to commend and congratulate Commander Joseph Lampert and American Legion Post 184 for their action of withdrawing support from the Morton Grove Park District. Having a Park District board member who won't stand for the pledge of allegiance reflects badly on the board too.

The board member is quoted saying “he doesn't want to make people pledge allegiance to a government they oppose and want to reform.” Makes you wonder what he has in mind? He also noted he “has ancestors who come from oppressive countries”. Perhaps he would be happier back there.

Harold G. Cohen
Morton Grove

Former mayor lauds strategic plan update

I am glad the village administration is updating the Morton Grove Strategic Plan. A solid, achievable plan is the best tool the Village has to fulfill its primary responsibility: to protect the life, property, and health of all residents.

A strategic plan is, first and foremost, about our residents. It should create a community that is vibrant, livable, and accessible to all residents. Grand visions, while compelling, too easily become pipe dreams if not grounded in reality. A strategic plan must be realistically achievable and take into account current and future resources. It must establish a course to achieve that vision and thus serve as a working guide. A plan is only as good as the commitment to consistently work the plan in the future. Quarterly reviews to analyze progress, monitor delays, and make adjustments are essential to successfully carry out the plan.

Facing serious financial and structural issues when I became mayor in 2009, we diligently worked to stabilize finances and begin the long process of improving infrastructure, which makes our village more appealing to new businesses and residents. In 2012, I asked staff to initiate a strategic plan process to build upon those improvements. Fortunately, the village is now stronger both financially and structurally, providing a solid foundation to craft an achievable strategic plan.

I encourage our village to continue the effort to develop a strong, realistic and compelling strategic plan to build on our solid foundation and create a vibrant community for our residents.

Daniel Staackmann
Morton Grove
8217 N. Washington St., Niles

House size: 981 square feet
Lot size: 6,250 square feet
Year built: 1955
Bedrooms: 2
Bathrooms: 2
Garage: 2.5-car detached
Property tax: $5,452.77 (2012)
Exterior: Brick
School districts: East Maine School District 63 and Maine Township High School District 207

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

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

Hiles
84th N Oketo Ave: Eleftherios Kalotihos, Kathy Kalotihos and Kathy Sikaras to Rahan Layath Al for $345,000 on Sept. 16

6330 N Lincoln Ave, #3: Piotr T Stanczyk to Nicholas K Duncan for $115,000 on Sept. 18

8727W Normal Ave: Michael A Cristiano and Angela M Cristiano to James G Keefer and Meghan R Keefer for $530,000 on Sept. 16

8801 W Golf Road, #10j: Anastasia Nenos to Oana Stefana Grigorovici for $110,000 on Sept. 20

Morton Grove
7121 Greenwood St: Zeisel Toni and Antonia Zeisel to Joseph Decola and Karen Wennerberg for $245,000 on Sept. 18

5841 Cleveland St: Lynn Gajewski Trust and Mildred M Warkenthien Trust to Michael J Moore for $202,500 on Sept. 20

9833 Oak Park Ave: Manzoor Qureshi, Rabia B Qureshi and Asfia T Syed to Ia Property LP for $217,500 on Sept. 20

Harwood Heights
7537 W Strong St: Ronald W Deutscher Trust, Susan H Kaplan Trust and Walter R Deutscher Trust to Francisco J Flores and Veronica Reina for $170,000 on Sept. 20

4730 N Narragansett Ave: Betty J Kownacki, Frederick B Schroeder Jr, Walter P Kownacki and John W Kownacki to Justo J Rodriguez and Emma Rodriguez for $230,000 on Sept. 19

Skokie
525 Brummel St: Catherine R Livingston Trust and George A Wolitski Trust to Gorr Construction Inc for $205,000 on Sept. 18

9037 Lamon Ave: Mark H Han and Kathleen R Han to Sayed A Quraishi and Sima Quraishi for $290,000 on Sept. 6

9530 Lamon Ave, #107: Frederick B Siegelntuch to Naheed Bolbolan and Hoshang Bolbolan for $117,000 on Sept. 19

9039 Keeler Ave: Mazel & Bracha LLC Series I to Bradley Cherney and Rebecca Cherney for $327,000 on Sept. 16

Lincolnwood
6431 Kolmar Ave: Laurina Joel to Tak Highland Entertainment LLC for $375,000 on Sept. 16

6842 N Keystone Ave: Jane Beederman to Aptrick Moongthaveephongsa and Amy Truong for $287,000 on Sept. 16

Des Plaines
8900 Robin Drive: Avinash Parikh and Kokila Parikh to Sherese Adams for $110,000 on Sept. 19

9332 Landings Lane, #204: Warren Michaels and Colia S Berger Trust to Nashib G Lazar and Forat M Lazar for $95,000 on Sept. 19

9166 Kenneth Lane, #103c: Tosmy Kochupurackal and Tosmy Simon to Jacob J Vennalamessy and Lousy Jacob for $56,000 on Sept. 20

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NILES

SATURDAY, NOV. 9

Adult CPR Instruction
9 a.m.: A certified CPR instructor will teach the American Red Cross guidelines for adult CPR. All participants should bring a lunch. Attendees must be 16 or older. Feldman Recreation Center, 8800 W. Kathy Lane, Niles. Call 847-297-3000. $42-$48.

Babysitting Workshop
10 a.m.: Attendees will learn skills in professionalism, basic care, safe play and first aid. For ages 10 to 15. Feldman Recreation Center, 8800 W. Kathy Lane, Niles. Call 847-297-3000. $10.

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.

The Field Museum
10:30 a.m.: The Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation will be offering a trip to the Field Museum. Bring a sack lunch or money to purchase a lunch. Must be 18 years or older. Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation, 6820 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-692-5127. $16-$24.

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HEALTH CARE FORUM
11 a.m.: Financial advisor Jillian Holly will present "Life in Retirement, Making Your Last." Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge. Call 847-625-3122.

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 847-625-3123.

Health Care Forum
11 a.m.: Financial advisor Jillian Holly will present "Life in Retirement, Making Your Last." Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge. Call 847-625-3122.

FRIDAY, NOV. 15

SCRAM: Ruse-Entry Burglary
10 a.m.: The program will teach seniors how to prevent ruse-entry burglary, which is when a perpetrator tries to distract a resident and then steals items out of the house while an accomplice robs the home. Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles. Call 847-588-8000.

How to Use the Illinois Health Insurance Marketplace
7 p.m.: Learn about the Illinois Health Insurance Marketplace, how to use the website to compare health insurance plans and how to set up an online account. Participants will need verification of income (pay stubs, income tax return) and a form of identification (driver's license, Social Security card, student ID). For more information or to register, go to calendar.mgl.org or call 847-922-5101. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

SATURDAY, NOV. 9

Princess and Pirate Pancake Breakfast
9 a.m.: Children ages 4 to 10 can dress up in a pirate or princess costume for a morning of pancakes, games, crafts and much more. Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sibley St., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-5127. $16-$24.

Holiday Bazaar
10 a.m.: A world market event featuring gifts, home goods and jewelry from across the globe. Illinois Holocaust Museum, 9630 Woods Drive, Skokie.

SECOND SUNDAY FAMILY STORY TIME
10 a.m.: Stories and crafts for the whole family. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Fall Craft Show and Brunch
10 a.m.: The Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation will be offering a trip to Harper College's annual craft show with more than 200 craft booths. After shopping, the group will stop at Wildberry Pancakes and Cafe for brunch. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

FRIDAY, NOV. 8

Boomers & Beyond Community Resource Fair
9 a.m.: The fair will showcase products and services designed to help people age with grace and independence while living an active, healthy lifestyle. There will be free wellness screenings, flu shots, education seminars, raffle prizes, refreshments and a Technology Drop-In Center. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-933-8200.

Next Page >>
CALENDAR


SUNDAY, NOV. 10

'Participatory Budgeting: Empowering Communities and Deepening Democracy'
10:30 a.m.: Joe Moore, alderman of Chicago's 49th Ward, will speak about the successes and challenges of his process that gives residents of Rogers Park the power to decide how is annual $1 million discretionary capital budget should be spent. Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-3334.

France's Valley of the Kings
2 p.m.: Travel expert Al Popowitz takes participants on a virtual tour of France's Loire Valley, including the historic Chateaux of Amboise, the mansion home of Leonardo da Vinci, a colorful market and a hot air balloon. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-867-7828.

MONDAY, NOV. 11

Fun-Day Monday
9 a.m.: Students ages 6 to 22 can enjoy the day off from school with a day of fun activities and a trip to the movie theater to see a newly-released movie. Bring a sack lunch. Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation, 6820 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-966-5522. $45-$100.

Sensory Story Time
11 a.m.: Hands-on learning engaging all the senses through music, movement, stories and play. Ideal for children ages 3 to 6 with autism or sensory processing issues. Participating families are welcome to stay for an additional 30-minute multi-sensory play time after the program. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Teddy Bear Time
1 p.m.: Stories, songs and finger plays for children ages 12 to 24 months with an adult. Siblings welcome. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Veteran's Day Celebration
12:30 p.m.: Author Cyndee Schaffer will present "Mollie's War" written by Cyndee and her mother Mollie Weinstein Schaffer, a WAC during World War II. Lunch will be catered. For adults ages 55 and up. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-3597. $17-$19.

Officer Friendly Story Time
1:30 p.m.: Stop by the library for a fun story time led by a Park Ridge police officer. For all ages. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Flannel Board Fun
6:30 p.m.: This program teaches preschool and elementary teachers how to make fun and engaging stories for the classroom out of felt. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

The Kennedy Assassination: A Retrospection
7 p.m.: Historian Jim Gibbons will give a presentation about the JFK assassination. Call 847-929-5101 or visit www.mgpl.org to learn more. Morton Grove Public Library, 640 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

Pages Book Discussion: Just One Day
7 p.m.: Join MGPL for a book discussion of "Just One Day" by Gayle Forman. Sparks fly when American good girl Allyson encounters laid-back Dutch actor Willem, so she follows him. Visit www.mgpl.org or call 847-929-5101 for more information. Barnes and Noble, 5405 Touhy Ave., Skokie.

TUESDAY, NOV. 12

Baby Bounce
9:15 a.m.: Special stories, songs, rhymes and playtime just for babies one year old and under. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Do More with Excel 2010
10 a.m.: Participants will learn more about Microsoft Excel 2010 with hands-on projects. Some projects include calculations, sorting and filtering data and custom formatting. Morton Grove Public Library, 640 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

Story Time for 4s and 5s
10:15 a.m.: Drop in for a short story time. Please no adults or siblings. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-825-3123.

YA Pizza & Pages
5 p.m.: Step in for pizza and a chance to share your current favorite books, then go home with new books to read. For grades six to 12. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 13

Twenty-First Star NSDAR Monthly Meeting
12:30 p.m.: The Twenty-First Star Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution will meet with a luncheon will be served at noon and a meeting and program to follow. Illinois State Regent Pamela Peterson Bork, will give a presentation titled "Our DAR Ties." Park Ridge Country Club, 936 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge.

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BUILDING PERMITS
BY WRAPPORTS NEWS SERVICE

1. Driveway
Address: 7012 W. Fargo Ave., Niles
Issue date: July 24
Permit cost: $80
Construction cost: $4,000

2. Plumbing - misc
Address: 7507 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles
Issue date: July 23
Permit cost: $87
Construction cost: $2,000

3. Furnace and air conditioning (HVAC)
Address: 7639 N. Olcott Ave., Niles
Issue date: July 25
Permit cost: $47
Construction cost: $2,800

4. Sign - electrical/non-electric
Address: 7882 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles
Issue date: July 24
Permit cost: $260
Construction cost: $3,000

5. Flood control
Address: 6853 W. Oakton Ct, Niles
Issue date: July 26
Permit cost: $80
Construction cost: $2,800

6. Roof (commercial and residential)
Address: 7078 N. Franks Ave., Niles
Issue date: July 23
Permit cost: $36
Construction cost: $3,520

7. Fence
Address: 7514 W. Lawler Ave., Niles
Issue date: July 22
Permit cost: $25
Construction cost: $2,000

8. Furnace and air conditioning (HVAC)
Address: 8100 N. Oketo Ave., Niles
Issue date: July 25
Permit cost: $47
Construction cost: $2,800

9. Plumbing - misc
Address: 8618 W. Keeney St., Niles
Issue date: July 24
Permit cost: $120
Construction cost: $7,200

10. Driveway
Address: 7450 W. Seward St., Niles
Issue date: July 22
Permit cost: $80
Construction cost: $2,800

Editor's Note: Content appears as it is provided in public records. To see all Niles building permits, visit niles.suntimes.com.
Whole Foods debuts in Park Ridge

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com | @Jen_Pioneer

Shoppers entering the new Whole Foods Market in Park Ridge will have plenty of reminders as to which community they are spending their dollars in.

There's the marquee-style delicatessen sign that shouts "Pickwick Theatre" and the reusable shopping bags depicting the historic theater's facade. There's the menu board with freshly-prepared sandwiches bearing names like "Touhy Turkey," "Pennyville" and an homage to Maine East grad Harrison Ford, "Temple of Doom." And, of course, there's the huge "Park Ridge" sign displayed above a row of coolers near the meat counter, right next to a timeline board that declares 1853 as the year George Penny started his brickyard here.

In choosing the store's decor, designers "took a lot of inspiration" from the Park Ridge community, said Jason Aragen, the store's manager.

"Early in its infancy, when they started looking at different decor, it had a very 'Park Ridge feel' and they wanted to make sure they emulated that in the store," Aragon said. "I can tell you, they knocked it out of the park."

Nearly two years after the Park Ridge Appearance Commission saw preliminary plans for a Whole Foods Market at Touhy and Washington Avenues, the retail chain was scheduled to roll out its unique brand of grocery store on Wednesday, Nov. 6 with an official bread-breaking using a nearly 5-foot-long braided challah.

The store will employ more than 200 workers, Aragon said. Many were busy unpacking boxes and making the sales floor actually look like a grocery store during a special preview Monday open to members of the local media.

Apart from the decor and the sandwich names, shoppers will find a few other new additions exclusive to the Park Ridge location.

A fresh juice bar near the entrance offers six distinct concoctions, like the BEETernal (carrots, apple, beets and kale), the Lemon Zip (a mixture of grape, lemon jalapeno and water), and the Belly Rub (comprised of cabbage, pineapple, pear, parsley, mint and ginger). For the less adventurous, freshly-squeezed orange juice is also on the menu.

Also unique to the Park Ridge store is the Gaslight wine bar, open from 5 to 9:30 p.m. each day. The bar will host wine tastings and classes, including a Dec. 10 course on "how to create your own cheese board," said Nancy LaBreacht, a spokeswoman for Whole Foods.

Surrounding the bar, shoppers can choose from more than 800 different types of wine, 250 craft beers (many locally produced), and some 100 different spirits. There are also more than 450 cheese styles and flavors available.

Nearby is a calendar of everything happening at Whole Foods over the next month, like Veteran's Day breakfast on Nov. 11 and the weekly "Wine Flight Wednesdays" at the Gaslight Bar.

"We definitely have events going on all the time," LaBreacht said. "It's a way to educate and get people to come in and have fun."

Whole Foods shows its appreciation with a sign in the dairy aisle in Park Ridge. | KEVIN TANAKA FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA

In keeping with a local theme, the Whole Foods deli sign is modeled after the Pickwick Theater in Park Ridge. | KEVIN TANAKA FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA

Whole Foods shows its appreciation with a sign in the dairy aisle in Park Ridge. | KEVIN TANAKA FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA

Park Ridge shoppers will also find one more exclusive: 15 varieties of donuts made freshly inside the store, from vanilla bean glazed to pumpkin and key lime coconut.

As part of a mission to give back to the communities in which it is located, Whole Foods will hold one "5 percent day" each month, with 5 percent of the day's proceeds going to a specific charitable organization. For November, Park Ridge's Center of Concern will benefit. The One Dime at a Time program will help the Park Ridge Civic Orchestra when shoppers who bring in their own reusable bags have the option of donating the dime they would have gotten back from the store.

Recently, the Park Ridge Whole Foods raised over $3,000 for Wright-Way Rescue when a special pre-opening benefit was held in the parking lot, LaBreacht said.

Whole Foods was suggested as an addition to Park Ridge's retail landscape as far back as 2004 when prospective Uptown developers were bringing proposals before the city.
MUSICAL EVENING BENEFITS OVER THE RAINBOW

AN EVENING WITH PATTI LUPONE
AND MANDY PATINKIN
Benefiting: Over the Rainbow Association
Date: Oct. 5
Location: Pick Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University, Evanston
Attended: 950
Raised: $400,000+
Website: otrassn.org

1. Nick Anacerio of Winnetka, board member and wife Beth, with Lori and Cliff Berman of Lincolnwood. 2. George Elder of Evanston, board member emeritus and video producer for Over the Rainbow, and wife Beth. 3. Bonnie and Dr. Raymond Des Rosiers of Glenview. 4. Roberto Mustacchi of Wilmette, Over the Rainbow secretary and treasurer, Tara Moran of Glenview, vice-president of development and general counsel, Ed Bjorncrantz of Evanston, former chairman, and wife Leslie. 5. Matthew and Carol Des Rosiers of Wilmette, Katie Russo of Evanston, Helen Kozma of Wilmette and Barbara Kaufman of Kenilworth. (Lee A. Litas For Sun-Times Media)
**OAKTON END O' SUMMER BASH**

Kickoff for: College's new Alumni Association  
Date: Sept. 21  
Location: Des Plaines campus  
Attendees: 25+ alumni

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**NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy for the Village of Morton Grove for 2013 will be held on November 25, 2013, at 7:00 pm at the Richard T. Flickinger Municipal Center, 6101 Capulina Avenue, Morton Grove, Illinois. Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Mr. Ryan Home, Village Administrator, 6101 Capulina Avenue, Morton Grove, Illinois 847-663-3001.

II. Corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2012 were $11,923,886. The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied by the Village for 2013 are $12,042,423. This represents a 0.99% increase over the previous year.

III. Property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2012 were $1,119,410. The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2013 are $1,000,873. This represents a (-10.59%) decrease over the previous year.

IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2012 were $18,536,341. The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2013 are $18,662,320. This represents a 0.68% increase from the previous year.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR THE VILLAGE OF MORTON GROVE**

Included in the aggregate levy for the Village of Morton Grove is the levy for the Morton Grove Public Library. Property taxes extended for the Library for 2012 were $3,056,319. The proposed library property taxes to be levied for 2013 are $3,056,319. This represents a 0.00% increase from the previous year.

The aggregate levy of the Village of Morton Grove for 2013 for corporate and special purpose taxes includes abatements totaling $5,619,024. The net increase to the Village's levy for 2013 after the abatement is $0 or 0.00%.
Chicago couple loved vintage decor of venue

Courtney Kiefer and Steve Miller

When Courtney Kiefer first saw her husband Steve Miller, he was wearing a Wheaties box as a Halloween costume. However, the Norridge native and Maine South High School graduate didn't see this costume in person. It was via his profile picture on the dating website, Plenty of Fish.

"I think Steve in his profile was really funny," Courtney said. "He showed personality and he seemed like a really nice guy." They started talking and had their first date Jan. 4, 2011.

Eventually, Steve, originally of Schuylkill Haven, Penn., proposed while the couple was in Munich on New Year's Eve, 2012, with a ring he bought from an estate in Pennsylvania.

The ring inspired Courtney to plan the wedding with a vintage theme in mind. The couple found a wedding venue to fit that theme fairly quickly - just weeks after the proposal.

Courtney's mom, Christine, suggested she check out the Armour House in Lake Forest. When they visited, the venue was set for a wedding, and the sight took Courtney's breath away.

Though finding the venue was simple, other aspects of planning were more difficult due to Courtney and Steve's jobs and travel schedules. Steve, who graduated from Lafayette College in Easton, Penn., is a regional director at SEI Investments, regularly traveling throughout the Midwest. Courtney, a Lake Forest College alumna, has been working as a flight attendant for United Airlines since 2006.

But the couple made it work with a color scheme of silver, cream, green and lots of Courtney's favorite color — purple.

She also made wedding wands for guests to wave after the ceremony, and guest tables were personalized as years rather than numbers.

Each table was named for the year of a couple's wedding: Courtney's parents, Michael and Christine Kiefer, were married in 1972. Their 1972 table was decorated with a photo from their big day. Same went for Steve's parents, Bill and Elaine Miller, and their 1973 wedding year.

The bride wore her grandmother's veil from 1951 as her "something old." It was modernized by Veiled by Cha Cha in Glen Ellyn.

Courtney and Steve spent three nights honeymooning in Copenhagen, Denmark, and 10 nights in Croatia after their May 25 wedding. They live in Chicago.

Every wedding tells a story. Contact Renee Lee at rlee@bouquetcatcher.com or 312-651-6613 to share yours. Facebook.com/BouquetCatcher | Twitter @BouquetCatcher | Pinterest.com/BouquetCatcher
Dena Oaklander & Travis Meyer

Dena and Travis met eight years ago at a sorority "crush party" while attending Northwestern University in Evanston. Dena, a Boca Raton, Fla., native and Travis, originally from Bliss, Mich., a small town on the very northern tip of the lower peninsula, married July 6 at The Rookery in Chicago. Travis graduated from Kellogg Business School in June, and Dena is in her second year of medical school at Rush University. They live in River North.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY REBECCA MARIE PHOTOGRAPHY & DESIGN

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@bouquetcatcher.com

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Sandhill cranes flock to NW Indiana

By Anne Thompson

Sandhill cranes are majestic birds with a 7-foot wingspan and total height ranging from 31 to 47 inches long. These birds are ancient creatures with populations across North America, and the South Shore is fortunate to have a front-row seat for their annual migration. In the fall, the sandhill cranes come back to the southern shores of Lake Michigan, putting on a spectacular show for locals and tourists alike.

Why they migrate
Like any other migratory bird in the northern hemisphere, sandhill cranes fly south to take refuge from the harsh winters in their mating grounds further north. The sandhill cranes seen along Lake Michigan stop off in the fall to rest and eat before taking the rest of their journey.

Where to see them
The cranes migrate to the Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife area in Medaryville. This preserve maintains more than 8,000 acres of wetland and woodlands, making it an ideal stop for the 10,000 sandhill cranes that pass through each fall. You can best see them from the Goose Pasture Viewing Area overlooking the water.

When to watch
You can view the cranes anytime during park hours between mid-October and mid-December. The best times of day to see them, however, are sunrise and sunset. Even if you are not a regular birdwatcher, you will marvel in this natural phenomenon.

To plan a trip to South Shore during the fall for amazing bird watching opportunities along Lake Michigan's southern beaches, call 219-989-7770 or visit SouthShoreCVA.com to learn about vacationing in the area. There are a number of fall festivals and events happening throughout sandhill crane migration season, so you can plan a fun-filled weekend that the whole family will enjoy.

Sponsored content by WeekAway. For more information on these or other destinations, visit WeekAway.com and follow @WeekAway on Twitter.
Fall into November fun

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

Traverse City Beer Week
Traverse City, MI • Nov. 8-15

A craft brewery "pub crawl" visiting six microbrew venues will be the opening event in the new Traverse City Beer Week beginning Nov. 8th, followed by a week-long celebration of craft brewing in the area.

Traverse City, best known as a four-season outdoor adventure destination with a lively culinary and wine scene, has suddenly emerged as a major center of craft brewing. Draft magazine named it one of America's three "emerging beer towns" -- along with St. Louis and Oklahoma City -- and the Travel Channel listed it among the Top Seven Beer Destinations in North America. Today the area boasts 11 microbreweries, brewpubs and craft beer taprooms -- three of them added in the past year -- with four more scheduled to open this fall.

Want more? Subscribe to the WeekAway E-Newsletter to get features on midwest travel, seasonal festivals and weekend getaway inspiration.

Go to weekaway.com/newsletter or scan the QR code to subscribe.

Women's Only Weekend
South Haven, MI • Nov. 8-10

Looking for an excuse to get away with the girls? The Women's Only Weekend (WOW) in South Haven, Michigan is like one big bachelorette party, without the stress of the wedding that follows.

Martinis, wine tastings, live music, cooking demonstrations, shows and boutique shopping are all part of WOW. Many downtown South Haven businesses join the fun with events like the "PJ Party" at Crescent Moon Sportswear, where ladies in their coziest sleepwear sip hot toddies and get deals on outdoor clothes and shoes.

Just two hours outside of Chicago, South Haven is a quaint harbor town on Lake Michigan with a population of 4,400. Adding to its charm are bed and breakfasts, antique shops, lakefront dining, vineyards and a red steel lighthouse at the mouth of the Black River.

Weekends by WeekAway

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

Milwaukee, WI
Trainfest
Nov. 9
trainfest.com

Utica, IL
Leinenkugel Pub Crawl
Nov. 9
starvedrocklodge.com

Hobart, IN
County Line Orchard
Farm to Table Festival
Nov. 9
Tickets required
countylineorchard.com

Crown Point, IN
Fall Antiques and Collectibles Show
Lake County Fairgrounds
Nov. 9-10
crossroadchamber.org

Sponsored content by WeekAway. For more information on these or other destinations, visit WeekAway.com and follow @WeekAway on Twitter.
Present tense?
Gift ideas abound at holiday bazaars

Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or the winter solstice, area bazaars can help you find holiday gifts and decor, baked goods and more.

Santa's Estate Sale
Held 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 9 at Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, 1800 W. Crescent Ave., Park Ridge. The holiday sale includes collectibles, books, linens, sweaters, wreaths, outdoor lighting and decorations, candles, ornaments, artificial Christmas trees and more, including vintage ornaments and decorations. A $6 bag sale and half-price sale will be held from 2-3 p.m. Free parking and admission. For information, call (847) 829-4495 or email santasesstatesale@gmail.com.

International Holiday Bazaar
Held 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 9 at the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie. Featuring gifts, homemades and jewelry. Free admission. Call (847) 967-4800 or visit www.iholocaustmuseum.org.

Art & Craft Fair
Resurrection College Prep High School, 7500 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago, will host its annual Art & Craft Fair from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 9. More than 180 displays will feature gifts, seasonal items, housewares, jewelry and treats. Admission: $5; $2 senior citizens; free for children under 10. Visit www.reshs.org for more information.

Holiday Craft and Bake Sale
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Women's Club, Queen of Peace, will hold its 41st annual sale from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Nov. 9 and 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 10 in the church's Paluch Hall, 8300 Greenwood Ave., Niles. Featuring handmade crafts, ornaments, wreaths, flower arrangements, gift baskets, needlepoint, afghans, dolls, home decorations, jewelry and more. There will also be a grand raffle, bake sale, and a turkey booth. Lunch menu will be available. Free admission. Call (847) 823-2550.

Holiday Craft Fair
Presented by St. John Brebeuf's Catholic Women's Club, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 10 in the Parish Ministry Center, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Featuring seasonal and year-round handmade items, a bake table and lunch. Admission is $1 for adults.

Annual Holiday Market
Held 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 10 at Emanuel Congregation, 5889 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, featuring fair trade items and crafts by local artisans, a food court and raffle. Visit www.facebook.com/pages/Emanuel-Congregation-Holiday-Market/38535342747.

Unique Treasures
The Women's Board of NorthShore University HealthSystem presents its third annual holiday sale and boutique, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 13 at Oakton Community College, 7701 Lincoln Ave., Skokie, featuring jewelry, clothing, toys, snacks, stationery and more. Includes a 50/50 raffle.

Spirit of Christmas Holiday Boutique
Held 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 16 at Park Ridge Community Church, 100 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge. Features handcrafted items by local artisans and fair trade merchants, including jewelry, hats, scarves, mittens, baby wreaths, pottery, gourmet dips, natural lotions and soaps, accessories, yoga mat bags, candles, cards and stationery and more.

Artisan Faire
Sisterhood Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, presents its annual Artisan Faire, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 17, featuring jewelry, dyed clothing, terrariums, scarves, card, fused glass, upcycled mittens, soaps, Judaica, cookbooks and other wares. Free gift wrap available. Also, raffles, food for purchase, and special fall root cooking demonstration by Chef Laura Frankel ($5 includes samples). Free admission. For information, call (847) 675-0951 or visit www.tbiskokie.org.

Christmas in Park Ridge Boutique and Craft Show
Presented by The Center of Concern from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 6 and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 7 at Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, 1300 W. Crescent Ave., Park Ridge. Call (847) 826-0929.
'Detroit '67' explores a violent chapter in American history

BY CATEY SULLIVAN
For Sun-Times Media

You can't actually see either of the two galvanizing forces that indelibly alter the lives of the tight-knit brothers/sister team at the heart of "Detroit '67," opening this week at Skokie's Northlight Theatre. But the infectious sounds of Motown and the terrifying sounds of riots all but serve as additional characters in playwright Dominique Morisseau's emotionally charged exploration of ferocious civil unrest and equally intense family ties.

In the hands of veteran, much-lauded Chicago director Ron OJ Parson, "Detroit '67" is both deeply rooted in the titular time and place, and as urgently relevant as the latest headlines.

"A lot of people want to say we're living in a post-racial society because we've got a black president, but in some places of the country? It's worse than ever," says Parson.

You don't have to dig very deep to find the truth behind his assertion. The week "Detroit '67" went into rehearsal, a black engineering undergrad was arrested in Manhattan, accused of larceny after he purchased a $350 belt at an upscale department store. The reasoning reportedly behind the arrest? That Trayon Christian couldn't possibly have enough money for such a pricey item, and must have stolen the charge card he used.

"This was a kid," says Kamal Angelo Bolden, who plays Langston, an aspiring entrepreneur who runs an after-hours club with his sister Chelle in "Detroit '67."

"He was a kid, making a stupid expensive purchase like kids do. What happened to him shows us that the profiling that went on in 1967 goes on today. The ideology has been sustained in a lot of places."

The Christian case is mild compared to the racial profiling that figures heavily in the plot of "Detroit '67." Chelle and Langston, along with their friend Sylvester (Kelvin Roston Jr.), are literally afraid to leave the confines of their home because their skin color makes them prime targets for arrest, beating and detainment.

Morisseau didn't need to indulge in creative license to explore the reason for her characters' fears; a recent examination by Rutgers University scholars of the Detroit riots paints a frightening picture of the city, especially in the mostly black 12th Street/Clairmont Avenue neighborhood where the play is set.

The riots — which the Rutgers study notes were rooted in a complicated foundation of social, political and economic issues — exploded after the police raided a club hosting a welcome home party for a pair of Vietnam vets.

"The city was a powder keg," adds Bolden. "When that spark finally came, the cops beating people senselessly at that club, well, that was the match."

For Langston, Chelle and Sylvester, the danger outside literally enters their apartment when the two men find a young white woman, dazed, bleeding and incoherent, wandering the streets. Simply by doing the decent human thing — taking her in and tending to her wounds — they put themselves in grave danger.

Still, the enigmatic Caroline is a catalyst for hope, says Bolden, so that "Detroit '67" is ultimately a joyful, hopeful play.

"There's positivity that eventually shines through," says Parson. "We're still fighting a protracted struggle. But we're making progress."
**BY MYRNA PETLICKI**  
For Sun-Times Media

It's surprising that a community theater would choose to tackle a show as challenging as Stephen Sondheim's "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street." But it's even more amazing how successfully Skokie Park District's Devonshire Playhouse is meeting that challenge.

Director and choreographer Jessica Sawyer has created a truly memorable production, ably assisted by music director, conductor and pianist Christie Chiles Twille, leading a 10-piece live orchestra.

The casting is nearly perfect with David Laub a truly frightening presence as Sweeney Todd, whose desire for revenge turns him into a twisted, often irrational person. Laub's powerful voice embraces every note and he is such a skillful actor that he is capable of showing glimpses of a gentler side in his humorous interactions with Mrs. Lovett, played by Kristina Pappademos. On opening night, Pappademos lost some of the lyrics for her first number, "The Worst Pies in London," but it was smooth sailing the rest of the show. She also has a huge voice and an engaging stage presence.

North Shore Country Day School eighth-grader Bert Getz is particularly outstanding as Tobias Ragg the assistant to huckster Adolfo Pirelli (an hysterical turn by delightfully comic Sean Blitzstein, who sings as well as he clowns).

Jeffrey Rubin looks great as Anthony Hope, the handsome young man who becomes enamored of Todd's daughter Johanna, but he is not up to the musical challenges. His performance of the usually haunting ballad, "Johanna," is particularly disappointing.

There's no false notes in Melanie Hughes' performance as Johanna, though, and she is truly lovely.

One of the best voices in the production belongs to Kate Comegys, who plays the mad Beggar Woman. Raymon Cunha also gives an arresting performance as Beadle Bamford, who carries out the orders of the villainous Judge Turpin.

Santiago Rosa's Judge Turpin could be a bit tougher but he does hold attention.

The voices of the rest of the ensemble blend beautifully and they are used effectively by Sawyer as everything from a chorus to mental patients.

Costume and prop coordinator Danon Dastugue and costume constructor Debra Kreusch have created a look for the cast that reflects the dark heart of the play. Black predominates in the costumes but most of the cast members have touches of bloody red on their clothing.

Particularly impressive is the deceptively simple set design and construction by Evans Poulos and Marissa Geocaris — several platforms that are quickly moved to create everything from Todd's barber shop/death chamber to Johanna's room in Judge Turpin's house to an insane asylum.

In short, audiences get a lot for a very little price.
NORTH SHORE NATIVE JAKE JOHNSON CHARMS HOLLYWOOD WITH HIS TV SERIES 'NEW GIRL'

Mr. Nice Guy

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT WINTER GETAWAYS
A Chilication is about escaping and leaving behind whatever stresses you: the stack of paperwork, the looming laundry or the carpool line. Chill-Out and play in downtown Chicago, choosing from dozens of winter activities and attractions that are steps from a Hilton hotel. Get ready to chill!

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THINGS WE LOVE

NARS Guy Bourdin Holiday Collection
Inspired by fashion photographer Guy Bourdin, NARS has released a holiday collection of blush, nail polish, lipstick and shadows in ultra-vibrant reds, blues and violets. Starting at $32, Sofia, 845 N. Michigan; Sephora.com

AT THE SHOOT
High-school rockers Purple Apple joined our team at Park West for a photo shoot promoting their upcoming charity concert. Though it was a school night, the quartet’s energy was high — they played air instruments on stage while posing and spoke excitedly about recording their debut album. See page 13 for our story.

EARLY BIRD
This fusion of warm socks and chic tights, created by Chicagoan Shelby Mason, is essential for any local style maven. Now in a slew of colors and patterns, there’s a perfect pair for any ensemble. Starting at $32, Sofia, 100 E. Walton; Sofiaivelovely.com

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High-school rockers Purple Apple joined our team at Park West for a photo shoot promoting their upcoming charity concert. Though it was a school night, the quartet’s energy was high — they played air instruments on stage while posing and spoke excitedly about recording their debut album. See page 13 for our story.

Cathay Pacific
The Hong Kong-based airline recently expanded its daily direct flights from O'Hare to Hong Kong International Airport. With 10 flights per week, the Far East has never been closer. Cathaypacific.com

need to know

WHAT HAD YOU TWEETING

Sugar Hills Bakery @SugarHillsEik: Did you see our CEO & Founder Jacob Neminarz in this weekend’s @Suntimes_Splash fashion lineup? Looking dapper!

Blowtique @blowtiquesalon:
Thank you so much to the ever-so-sweet @Suntimes_Splash for congratulating us on the Blowtique baby! #grateful

K101 Agency @kt10agency: Had the MOST FUN cheering on our Chicago Bulls at the @Suntimes_Splash viewing party at @GiordanosPizza

Tweet us: @Suntimes_Splash

WHAT'S NEXT ON YOUR VACATION AGENDA?

“A week in Minnesota for Christmas. It’s out of a Hans Christian Andersen story — tons of cross-country skiing, drinking hot chocolate and sitting around the fire with family.”

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“Jr meeting up with college chums in Bangkok and Dubai for New Year’s Eve. Really excited to be exploring new places with old friends.”

“Trending up with college chums in Florence, Italy for three weeks in January! I’m studying abroad and have never left the country before, so I’m both terrified and excited.”

Founder
Michael Ferro

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Chicago Philharmonic

ROMANTIC SERENADE
SUN NOV 10 3PM
Nichols Hall
Evanston

JOEL SMIRNOFF, CONDUCTOR • DAVID PERRY, VIOLIN

Brahms Serenade No. 2
Strauss Metamorphosen
Berlioz Rêverie and Caprice - Solo Violin with Orchestra

(866) 811-4111 chicagophilharmonic.org

this week

November 6-February 2
- STATE OF DECEPTION: THE POWER OF NAZI PROPAGANDA
An incisive and revealing traveling exhibition from the US Holocaust Memorial Museum features rarely seen material that allows visitors to understand how simple, strong imagery and a well-strategized propaganda campaign could be so persuasive and destructive.
Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily
Place: Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore
Cost: Adults $15, seniors and students $12, children 3-11 $10. For more information, visit Fieldmuseum.org.

November 7
- PROJECT IMPACT FINALISTS
Head to this event from A Better Chicago - the philanthropy that helps fund early childhood, education and career nonprofit organizations - and hear presentations from the four 2013 Project impact finalists, then help select which innovative nonprofit will win $100,000, 12 months of management support and networking opportunities.
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: 1871 Auditorium, 222 Merchandise Mart Plaza, suite 1212
Cost: Free. To register (required), visit Abetterchicago.org/projectimpact.

November 9
- THE CHICAGO URBAN LEAGUE 52ND ANNUAL GOLDEN FELLOWSHIP DINNER
Co-chairs E. Scott Santi, president and CEO of ITW, and Gregory D. Wasson, president and CEO of Walgreens, welcome guests to enjoy a Champagne reception, dinner and entertainment from comedian Damon Williams and music by The O'Jays at this annual gala evening, honoring Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr. and Academy Award-winner Louis Gossett Jr.
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan
Cost: $600. For tickets, visit Thechicagourbanleague.org.
November 9

- UCCRF WOMEN'S BOARD 47TH ANNUAL GRAND AUCTION
  The University of Chicago Cancer Research Foundation Women's Board and its supporters gather for this black-tie fundraiser, an evening of dinner, dancing and not-to-be-missed auction items ranging from a custom Ralph Lauren Ricky bag to a luxury safari to a hockey stick autographed by the 2012-13 Chicago Blackhawks.
  Time: 6:30 p.m.
  Place: Four Seasons Chicago, 120 E. Delaware
  Cost: $600-$1000. For tickets, visit Cancerboard.org.

- Signature Chefs Auction Of Chicago
  This scrumptious event - hosted by Quaker Foods North America CFO Chris Hail and his wife, Renee, with David Bionsky of Siena Tavern serving as Honorary Chef - offers bites from 20 top restaurants, plus the opportunity to bid on travel, sporting and dining packages, all in support of the March of Dimes.
  Time: 6 p.m.
  Place: Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, 301 E. North Water
  Cost: $250. For tickets, call (312) 596-4712 or visit Marchofdimes.com/illinois.

November 14

- SEVENTH ANNUAL CHILL EVENT
  Enjoy stellar sips and satisfying nibbles from some of the city's top restaurants at this annual gourmet event, benefiting the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras, the Lynn Sage Foundation and the Respiratory Health Association.
  Time: VIP wine tasting reception 5 p.m., wine and culinary event 6 p.m.
  Place: Luxehome, 222 W. Merchandise Mart Plaza
  Cost: General admission $95, VIP $175. For tickets, call (312) 527-4691 or visit Luxehome.com.

- DANIEL H. BURNHAM DINNER
  The Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce honors Greg Brown, chairman and CEO of Motorola Solutions, Inc., with the Burnham Award at this 22nd annual dinner event. The award symbolizes the importance of civic involvement and serves as a reminder of how Chicago thrives with a fully engaged business community.
  Time: 5:30 p.m.

- PAWS CHICAGO'S 12TH ANNUAL FUR BALL
  Let your four-legged friend strut the red carpet at Chicago's only pet-friendly black-tie event, then enjoy dinner, dancing and live and silent auctions. All proceeds support PAWS Chicago efforts to find homes for Chicago's stray pet populations.
  Time: 6 p.m.
  Place: The Drake Hotel, 140 E. Walton
  Cost: $400 per person, $100 per pet. For tickets, call (773) 843-4884 or visit Furball.pawsevents.org.

November 15

- SIGNATURE CHEFS AUCTION OF CHICAGO
  This scrumptious event - hosted by Quaker Foods North America CFO Chris Hail and his wife, Renee, with David Bionsky of Siena Tavern serving as Honorary Chef - offers bites from 20 top restaurants, plus the opportunity to bid on travel, sporting and dining packages, all in support of the March of Dimes.
  Time: 6 p.m.
  Place: Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, 301 E. North Water
  Cost: $250. For tickets, call (312) 596-4712 or visit Marchofdimes.com/illinois.

- LITTLE CITY ANNUAL DINNER GALA
  Devoted to providing assistance to adults and children with disabilities, Little City honors John and Becky Duffey for their leadership and support in the design of home environments for children with autism, now dubbed the Duffey Family Children's Village.
  Time: 6 p.m.
  Place: Hyatt Regency Chicago, 151 E. Upper Wacker
  Cost: $400. For tickets, visit Littlecity.org/gala.

LANA BRAMLETTE
FOR LANA JEWELRY, IN PERSON
Tuesday, November 12
Noon to 4
Designer Jewelry
NM Michigan Avenue
STORIES BY KATERINA BIZIOS

Witches, zombies and vampires were among the more than 300 guests at the Chicago Cultural Center (78 E. Washington) Oct. 25 for the Sun-Times Foundation's inaugural Halloween Ball. Upon arrival, partygoers accessorized their black-tie garb from tables stocked with pirate hats, masks and more, and sipped Grey Goose, Bacardi and Dewars cocktails alongside co-chairs Rita Canning and Jacky Ferro (wife of Sun-Times parent company Wrapports Chairman Michael Ferro) and emcee Bill Zwecker. Fortune tellers and magicians worked the room before the sit-down dinner, catered by Paramount Events, which included a spread of seasonal dishes such as butternut squash soup, sweet potatoes and filet mignon with pumpkin seed pesto. Later, guests jumped from their seats when a surprise performance of Michael Jackson's "Thriller" sent Joffrey Ballet dancers winding through the dining area. After the performance, as DJ Megan Taylor spun from behind a cauldron, guests went trick-or-treating, filling pumpkin buckets with candy, GrubHub gift cards and items from retailers like Bloomingdale's and Pomellato. But the real treat was the $2.3 million raised for the Foundation, which improves the lives of Chicagoans by supporting a wide range of charities.

Joffrey Ballet dancers performed after dinner.

Dressed to Thrill

The Chicago Cultural Center was transformed into a Halloween scene by Event Creative.

The Sun-Times was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and The Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to the Field Museum Gala, up to a total of $50,000. Up to $1,000 can be matched per individual donation.
As temperatures keep dropping, women are in need of a fashionable way to fight the cold. These fierce ladies chose to rock furs and fauxs, simultaneously keeping warm and looking glam. Designers have always embraced the trend as a way to add wild style to an outfit, and this season is no different — Jean Paul Gaultier and Andrew Gn both accented their fall collections with fur collars and trim, adding a rock-star vibe to elegant pieces. ’Tis the season to wear the wild things.
WRITE ON

The Oct. 23 Carl Sandburg Literary Awards Dinner was one for the books: A record-setting 750 guests turned up to celebrate the written word alongside 74 esteemed authors. In a nod to the evening’s theme, the cocktail hour offered canapes served on old-fashioned bookcases and trays decorated with pencils, pens and keyboard keys. During dinner, books written by the award recipients — as well as the authors seated at each table — were displayed under reading-lamp centerpieces. Emcee Bill Kurtis then took the stage to introduce the honored authors: Isabel Allende (The House of the Spirits, Island Beneath The Sea) and Michael Lewis (Moneyball, The Blind Side, Boomerang), who won the Carl Sandburg Literary Award for fiction and non-fiction, and Chicago-based novelist and short-story author Christine Sneed, who received the 21st Century Award for significant achievement in writing. The evening raised $1.5 million for the library’s programming.

The Sun-Times was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to the Carl Sandburg Literary Awards, up to a total of $50,000. Up to $1,000 can be matched per individual donation.

FACETS FAMILY BOO! BASH

Local families donned their Halloween best to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Chicago International Children’s Film Festival at the Facets Family Boo! Bash, held Oct. 27 at Park West Chicago (322 W Armitage). Kids spent the afternoon posing for photos with Blackhawks and White Sox mascots Tommy Hawk and Southpaw, watching movies, playing games and showing off their costumes during a contest judged by ABC’s “Betrayal” stars Chris Johnson and Elizabeth McLaughlin. Tasty treats like cotton candy and caramel bites kept the energy high for fundraising, which benefited Facets’ year-round educational programs and the Chicago International Children’s Film Festival.

The Sun-Times was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to the Facets Family Boo! Bash, up to a total of $10,000. Up to $1,000 can be matched per individual donation.
**FIFTY shades of FASHION**

**SPLASH:** Tell us a little bit about your brand. What is it best known for?

**ELLIOT STAPLES:** The Limited was created for modern professional women. Our ready-to-wear collections are always in style, and suitable for any occasion.

**SPLASH:** How has The Limited evolved over the past 50 years while staying true to its core values?

**ES:** We still believe in empowering women and helping them look their best. Even with the changes in dress codes in the work force, I still believe a well-fitting suit will stand the test of time and has staying power in an evolving wardrobe.

**SPLASH:** How are you celebrating the 50th anniversary?

**ES:** Last week, we kicked off our grand celebration weekend by having an event at our Water Tower Place store in Chicago. But our anniversary was as much about the customer as it was about our birthday. We really wanted to find a way to get her involved. We had various online contests as well as an online vote where we asked her to pick which party dress we should create for the big celebration. We just announced the winning dress at our event and it is now available for her to purchase at THE LIMITED.com.

**SPLASH:** How do you stay current with your customers?

**ES:** We know that she has a lot of options out there, so it is our job to interpret and edit to offer the best and latest runway trends that work for her everyday life. The heritage of The Limited is that we offer a “limited” assortment of ideas. It is our privilege to be her trusted editor!

**SPLASH:** As the head of design, what does 50 years of The Limited mean for you?

**ES:** The Limited has a great heritage. We were the company that defined specialty retailing and the model for everyone who came after us. For our anniversary, we will be celebrating our customer. She is the one that has supported us through the years and is my inspiration every day.

**SPLASH:** Fifty is a huge milestone for any fashion brand! How do you stay current with your customers?

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For Peter Roth, sitting still is a luxury. In 15 years working in hotels, Roth has moved his family 11 times, living in Spain, Venezuela, Uruguay, Ecuador, Germany, Russia and, most recently, Chile. That rapid pace means he’s never returned to any of the cities once he’s left — until now. After departing Chicago in 2007, Roth is back as the general manager of the Park Hyatt, and he couldn’t be happier. “I started working in hotels at 21, and this is my first repeat,” Roth says in his one-of-a-kind accent, a side effect of traveling so often. “That is very special. This is such a great city.”

Four months into his position, Roth is instituting programs to reflect his vision of the Michigan Avenue landmark “This is a very intimate hotel,” he says. “We want it to feel like a home.” To that end, Roth is working to make the spot feel more family-friendly through the VIC program (short for Very Important Children). The father of three is expanding the existing Masters of Food & Wine activities — a cooking series that teaches adults everything from sushi-making to pickling — to include kids’ classes. “The kids are going to do sweet stuff. We’re thinking pies, muffins and cookies. One I find especially charming is the gingerbread houses,” he says.

There’s no better time for Roth to instill a sense of warmth and coziness than the holidays, and he’s already gearing up to deck the halls. “We will have some dream trees in the lobby as part of the holiday initiative to bring that whole spirit into our hotel,” he explains. “One tree will house specific wishes from underprivileged children. Guests can take a wish and make a commitment to fulfill that wish and we will be the conduit,” he explains. “It’s about sharing some of the good things and creating some happiness.”

Roth is also working to ensure that a stay at the Park Hyatt generates plenty of good cheer. The hotel is chock full of amenities, including a concierge who will do everything from dog-walking to adding personalized touches to a guest’s every desire: flowers, drinks, movies, food — even the firmness of the pillows on the bed. “It’s the luxury of being in a hotel that’s not a thousand rooms,” he says. “We’ll just make it happen.”

Here, the hotel hero details a day spent with his family, exploring the city he once again calls home.

7 A.M.
An avid runner (he once ran the MdS, the “toughest footrace on Earth,” through the desert), Roth starts his day with a jog along the lakefront.

9 A.M.
Roth’s oldest daughter, Sofia (11), makes pancakes for the whole family: Katerina (8), Isabella (6) and Roth’s wife, Gabriella.

11 A.M.
The world traveler takes a trip to Architectural Artifacts (4325 N. Ravenswood) to browse its antique collections.

3 P.M.
The family stops by their favorite local pizza spot, Spacca Napoli Pizzeria (1769 W. Sunnyside), for an authentic slice.

8 P.M.
The night winds down with a romantic, parents-only dinner at Le Colonial (937 N. Rush). An adventurous diner, Roth never orders the same dish twice.
The Queen Latifah Show in Primetime

Weeknights 7:00 PM
WCIU The U
North Shore native Jake Johnson on sports, Second City and finding success on-screen

BY MOLLY EACH

On the TV series "New Girl," Jake Johnson plays Nick Miller, an adorable but curmudgeonly chronic underachiever. But in real life, the North Shore native is anything but. In the last two years, Johnson has graced the screen in big-budget movies such as "No Strings Attached" and "21 Jump Street," starred in critical indie darlings such as "Drinking Buddies" and "The Pretty Ones," made memorable guest appearances on television shows like Comedy Central's "Drunk History," and, most notably, has been an essential part of the success of "New Girl." The Fox sitcom, which tells the story of the title character, played by Zooey Deschanel, and her three male roommates, is a bona fide hit for the network, earning five Emmy and four Golden Globe nominations — including Best Comedy Series.

"We all get along great and love making each other laugh," Johnson says, adding that a fair amount of their off-the-cuff humor is included in each episode. "We always shoot the script as is, but then we do a few takes of improv," he says. "A lot of it makes it onto the air." As for this season's much-discussed storyline, in which Johnson and Deschanel's characters finally give into their mutual feelings, Johnson doesn't reveal much. "She's a great actress, and working with her has been a real treat," he says.

Johnson, 35, traces his comedy chops back to his Chicago upbringing. Though he grew up in Winnetka, and moved to Evanston when he was 15, he trekked downtown whenever he could. "I loved how close it was to the city. In my opinion, Chicago is the best city in the country." His trips often included a visit to Second City, which the actor credits as inspiring his love for acting.

But it was his talent for writing that got him into the industry. While attending the University of Iowa he wrote a play, which garnered him admission to the Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. He moved to LA soon after and waited tables while writing and starring in short films and appearing in bit TV and movie roles. After a small role in the 2010 Russell Brand movie "Get Him to the Greek," Johnson's career began to accelerate, with appearances in several blockbuster movies, and in 2011, he was cast in "New Girl," which, now in its third season, draws in an average 5.7 million viewers per episode.

Though filming the show means that he and his wife, Erin Payne, are now LA-based, Johnson's love for Chicago still burns strong. In fact, he asked the "New Girl" writing team to have his character hail from Chicago. "I love when [the city] is represented in TV and movies," he says. He returns several times a year to visit family and friends — "I always get an Old Style at Old Town Ale House, and I make sure to swing by Wrigley Field" — and adds that he's a "die-hard" Cubs, Bears and Bulls fan. Like most of the city, he's thrilled about the return of hometown hero Derrick Rose. "He's an easy player to cheer for," says Johnson, an avid hooper who plays in a weekly men's basketball league. "Great work ethic, and I like that he doesn't recruit players to Chicago. Win with what you have."

While "New Girl" continues to thrive, Johnson also has his hand in other projects, including two 2014 movies: "Neighbors," starring Zac Efron and Rose Byrne, and "Let's Be Cops." "It's an action comedy with Damon Wayans Jr., Rob Riggle and Andy Garcia," Johnson says. "It was a blast working with Damon. I can't wait to see the movie."

Though he's found his fame in front of the camera thus far, he's eager to get back behind the scenes. "I'm very interested in producing things. I like watching ideas become projects," he says. "But I just want to keep working and making things that I can be proud of."

"New Girl" airs Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. on Fox.
Three suburban teens and their onetime babysitter are infiltrating Chicago's indie-rock scene

Like many suburban 16-year-olds, Nonie Andersen, Madi O'Brien and Olivia Eigel occasionally try to sneak into downtown rock clubs like The Hideout, Metro and Schubas. Most of the time, they fail. Except when they're the ones going onstage.

Along with 20-something drummer Devin Ulery, the trio form indie pop band Purple Apple. The youngest act ever to headline the Metro (while they were still in middle school), the band has also performed at Lollapalooza, Wicker Park Music Festival and the Hard Rock Cafe. On Nov. 8, Purple Apple will take the stage at yet another impressive Chicago venue: Park West, where they're playing along with headlining band Wild Belle at Art & Soul, a fashion show and concert sponsored by Art & Science salon, benefiting the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

On the heels of recording their debut LP with pop producer Mike Chapman (who's churned out hits for the likes of Blondie and Pat Benatar) and preparing for an upcoming tour with folk-rock icon Lissie, the Glenbrook South juniors say they aren't intimidated by performing at such high-profile spots. "We're used to it now," Eigel says. "We're more mature onstage. We're older, and so is our music."

Purple Apple's soulful sound and smart lyrics have always belied Andersen, Eigel and O'Brien's youth. The latter pair, best friends since they were in diapers, began writing songs together at age 8. When they discovered that neighbor Andersen played guitar, the three joined forces to write their first "legitimate song."

Shortly after, Purple Apple began generating buzz. Among those who took notice: Chicago rocker Scott Lucas of Local H, who helped the girls refine their sound. With Eigel as the lead vocalist, Andersen on guitar and O'Brien playing bass, the band began landing smaller gigs and soon realized they needed a drummer — so they turned to Ulery, Eigel's then-nanny, who'd previously laid down beats for a handful of local acts. The group's age-defying lyrics and arrangements persuaded Ulery to participate. "Somehow, despite [the age difference], it just works," she says. "It's so strange."

Over the next few years, as the band found a manager, recorded a debut EP and sharpened their songwriting skills, the members of Purple Apple were simultaneously growing up. "In the beginning, our music was about life and memories and simple things," Andersen says. "As we got older, it slowly transformed into being about breakups and relationships."

When they landed a publishing deal with Sony in 2012 and began consulting with Chapman, the legendary producer insisted that the album authentically reflect that transformation. The quartet spent a whirlwind two weeks producing the LP this fall, reaching back into their archives to rerecord some of their very first songs — a process they recall as both exhausting and exhilarating.

Returning to high school after the recording session was, as Eigel puts it, a "huge letdown." "The last night, we were in the studio till 4 a.m., and had to be back for school at 6:30," Andersen adds. "We were like zombies. The two worlds are just so different."

Despite their burgeoning fame, the trio maintains that they aren't that different from their classmates. All three plan on attending college, and are adamant about forging their own paths outside of the band. "We all do our own things," Andersen says. "I work for the radio station and play lacrosse, Madi edits the school newspaper, Livvy's in choir." Eigel, who also plays lacrosse, jokes, "What is sleep?"

All four are hopeful that they're equally indistinguishable from their musical peers. "When we were younger, [our age] was an issue. But once people see us, they understand that the story's really cool, but we also know what we're doing," Eigel says. "We don't want to be seen as, 'Oh, they're good for 16.' We want people to say, 'Oh, they're good.'"
Feature | Winter Getaways

Quick Escapes

From short flights to quick drives, these weekend getaways offer an antidote to winter blues.

By Kristin Larson

Palm Beach, Fla.

Travel Time: Under 3-hour Flight

Never mind South Beach. Palm Beach, the former stomping ground of Frank Sinatra and the Kennedys, is a relaxing and chic vacation spot. The Atlantic oceanfront town flaunts pristine beaches, a sparkling downtown and dreamworthy shopping along Worth Avenue. For an afternoon away from the pool, check out the Norton Art Museum (1451 S. Olive; Norton.org) in nearby West Palm.

Where to eat: Ta-Boo Restaurant (221 Worth; Taboorestaurant.com), the legendary bistro that once served John F. Kennedy and countless celebrities.

Where to stay: The Chesterfield Palm Beach (pictured), a boutique hotel with a very pretty pool. 363 Cocoanut Row; Chesterfieldpb.com

New Orleans

Travel Time: 2 1/2-hour Flight

New Orleans is the quintessential spot for those seeking Southern hospitality at its finest. Cocktail culture is kicking — whether sipping a Sazerac on the porch of your hotel or at one of the many fashionable lounges about town (try Cure, 4905 Feret; Curenoia.com and Bellocq, 936 St. Charles; Thehotelmodern.com). Look back in time at the Backstreet Cultural Museum (1116 Henriette Delille; Backstreetmuseum.org), which tells the stories of the Mardi Gras Indians, and the World War II Museum (945 Magazine; Nationalww2museum.org), ranked one of the best museums in the world.

Where to eat: La Petite Grocery (4238 Magazine; Lapetitegrocery.com) for interesting bites like turtle Bolognese and shellfish stew.

Where to stay: The Columns Hotel for an elegant New Orleans experience. 3811 St. Charles; Thecolumns.com

S

ure, the holidays offer a nice distraction. But come February, winter can have us suffering from a serious case of cabin fever. Fortunately, it's easily remedied with even a few days away from gray, slushy Chicago. Whether you're craving a weekend of wine or need a dose of sunshine and poolside relaxation, here are five ways to escape the daily hustle — all within a short drive or flight from Chicago.

The Grand Ole Opry in Nashville

Nashville, Tenn.

Travel Time: 1 1/2-hour Flight

The country music capital is suddenly on everyone's hot list, and it's clear why. Rich history, epic Southern mansions — not to mention old-fashioned barbecue — are just a few of the vibrant city's allures. The Grand Ole Opry (2804 Opryland, Opry.com) is a must for any music lover, but the newly opened Johnny Cash Museum (119 Third; Johnnycashmuseum.com) should not be missed. Spend day or two sightseeing. Picture-taking spots include the 1850s-era Belmont Mansion (1700 Acklen; Belmontmansion.com), a 10,000-square-foot Italianate home and the former digs of Adelicia Acklen (Nashville’s own Scarlett O'Hara); the Belle Meade Plantation (5025 Harding; Bellemeadeplantation.com), regarded as the "Queen of the Tennessee Plantations," built in Greek Revival style; and the Parthenon (2500 West End), a replica of the world-famous temple in Greece.

Where to eat: Papa Turney's Old Fashioned BBQ (3979 Belle; Papaturneysbbq.com) for ribs, chicken, brisket and wings.

Where to stay: The Hermitage Hotel, a luxury hotel built in 1910. 231 6th; Thehermitagehotel.com

The Grand Ole Opry in Nashville

Nashville, Tenn.

Travel Time: 1 1/2-hour Flight

The country music capital is suddenly on everyone's hot list, and it's clear why. Rich history, epic Southern mansions — not to mention old-fashioned barbecue — are just a few of the vibrant city's allures. The Grand Ole Opry (2804 Opryland, Opry.com) is a must for any music lover, but the newly opened Johnny Cash Museum (119 Third; Johnnycashmuseum.com) should not be missed. Spend day or two sightseeing. Picture-taking spots include the 1850s-era Belmont Mansion (1700 Acklen; Belmontmansion.com), a 10,000-square-foot Italianate home and the former digs of Adelicia Acklen (Nashville’s own Scarlett O'Hara); the Belle Meade Plantation (5025 Harding; Bellemeadeplantation.com), regarded as the "Queen of the Tennessee Plantations," built in Greek Revival style; and the Parthenon (2500 West End), a replica of the world-famous temple in Greece.

Where to eat: Papa Turney's Old Fashioned BBQ (3979 Belle; Papaturneysbbq.com) for ribs, chicken, brisket and wings.

Where to stay: The Hermitage Hotel, a luxury hotel built in 1910. 231 6th; Thehermitagehotel.com
**Kohler, Wis.**

**TRAVEL TIME: 2-HOUR DRIVE**

The main draw of Kohler (yes, named for the sink- and faucet-maker) is the five-star American Club Resort and Kohler Waters Spa. The stately resort offers an array of spa treatments (for fall, an apple cider-spiced pedicure is on tap) and recreational activities. Expectedly, there are countless therapeutic pools and whirlpools. End the day at the rooftop deck, replete with comfy chaise lounges, a fireplace and, of course, a steamy whirlpool.

**Where to eat:** There’s everything from upscale farm-to-table to casual fare with brats (it’s Wisconsin, after all).

**Where to stay:** American Club Resort or its dog-friendly Inn on Woodlake. 501 Highland; Americanclubresort.com

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**Traverse City, Mich.**

**TRAVEL TIME: 5-HOUR DRIVE**

Napa may be a hike, but Traverse City is just a hop, skip and a jump away. The picturesque town is home to two wine regions — the Leelanau Peninsula and Old Mission Peninsula — roadside farmer’s markets, gorgeous landscapes and more. (No wonder star chef Mario Batali is a fan). Both charming peninsulas boast a slew of wineries, including Hawthorne Vineyards (1000 Camino Maria; Hawthornevineyards.com) and Brys Estate (3309 Blue Water; Brysestate.com) on the Old Mission side, and Black Star Farms (360 McKinley; Blackstarfarms.com) and Shady Lane Cellars (9400 E. Shady; Shadylaneceilars.com) on the Leelanau side. Don’t miss Traverse City’s one and only winery, Left Foot Charley (806 Red; Leftfootcharley.com).

**Where to eat:** Mission Table (13512 Peninsula; missiontable.net) for serious farm-to-table fare.

**Where to stay:** Chateau Chantal, a winery and bed and breakfast with stunning views of vineyards, hills and lakes. 15900 Rue de Vin; Chateauchantail.com
Bridget Blaney & Jeff Kaplan

BY KATERINA BIZIOS

Bridget Blaney and Jeff Kaplan forged a fast friendship while working at Wisconsin’s Camp Kawaga during the summer of 2008. But it wasn’t until the next summer that Kaplan — who spent much of his childhood at the camp, then grew up to become its assistant director — mustered up the courage to pursue Blaney, who worked as the camp nurse. “Jeff had an increasing number of ailments in the summer of 2009 that sent him to the infirmary,” Blaney laughs. Four years later, the couple returned to where it all began, inviting 200 friends and family members to join them at Kawaga for a weekend of classic camp activities like archery, roasting s’mores and stargazing. Blaney and Kaplan tied the knot in front of 200 friends and family members at St. Matthias Episcopal Church in Minocqua, Wis. in a touching ceremony that fused Jewish and Catholic customs. “We wanted to be sure to honor and celebrate both of our faith backgrounds,” Blaney says. After the ceremony, guests headed back to the campgrounds, where they donned friendship bracelets and danced to the sounds of local band Viva Knievel. “Our favorite compliments were people saying the wedding was very us,” Blaney says. “It was so relaxed. We didn’t take ourselves too seriously.” At the end of the night, the newlyweds sat under the stars and took in the moment. “Not only were we now husband and wife — we were husband and wife with the most amazing friends and family,” Blaney says.

CHEERS!

Congrats to the Art Van Furniture team on the grand opening of their Logan Square store (2606 N. Elston). The staff celebrated with a party in the new space, welcoming guests to enjoy cocktails, dance to jams by Jim Belushi and The Sacred Hearts and peruse rooms styled by Jet Magazine’s Mitzi Miller, Plate Magazine’s Chandra Ram, ESPN’s Sarah Spain and Splash’s Susanna Negovan.

SEND US YOUR CHEERS!

If you have good news to share — or if you’d like your wedding featured — send a note to Splash@sun-times.com.
Dear Jenny,

I am new to Chicago and lived in San Jose most of my adult life. I recently attended a black-tie event, and it seemed easy for the men — black tie means a black-tie suit. I chose a knee-length black lace dress, a great pair of heels and a fabulous pair of sparkling chandelier earrings. More than 85 percent of the women were in long gowns, and I felt totally underdressed. What is the proper protocol on when to wear long or short dresses to black-tie events?

-Lisa, Chicago

Jenny says: Today, black tie means that women have the choice of wearing a long dress, a formal cocktail dress or very dressy separates. However, if you want to avoid feeling underdressed, an event’s dress code can be determined based on an invitation’s wording. “Black tie” traditionally means men wear tuxedos and women wear either full-length gowns or skirts that reach the floor and are paired with an elegant blouse. Over the years, black-tie attire has become less formal, but to me, long is still the safest and most appropriate option when attending a black-tie event.

“Black-tie optional” allows for more variety, and typically means the host is suggesting you dress in your most formal attire, preferably black-tie attire, but they are not insisting upon it. A little black dress is completely appropriate for black-tie optional.

Another way to determine proper protocol on when to wear long versus short dresses is based on the type of event being held. If the invitation indicates the party will be relatively short and will only include a cocktail hour, a simple black dress will suffice. On the other hand, a formal dinner party or a longer event calls for a more formal dress, such as one that reaches the floor.

Have fun!

Send questions to Askjenny@suntimes.com

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-Renee, age 53

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READ JENNY’S DAILY BLOG AT CHICAGOSPLASH.COM
Thanks to Airbnb, an adventurous set is taking an interest in income properties

BY MADELINE NUSSER

With the holidays drawing near, hundreds of thousands of travelers will soon book rooms — but not at a hotel. Short-term rentals are gaining traction according to recent numbers posted by Airbnb, the online service that provides a platform for adventurous homeowners to rent unoccupied living space to travelers. In October, the company announced it had served 9 million guests since launching in 2008 — and of that amount, 5 million guests booked nights in the last nine months alone.

Buyer’s agent Seth Captain (call 773-744-5372), of Captain Realty, has noticed the uptick in short-term rentals. Recent clients have set out for a two- or three-flat with the distinct purpose of turning one unit into a property leased nightly through Airbnb. “It’s a numbers game,” Captain says. “The idea that you could rent a simple two-bedroom apartment for $100 a night, for a third of a month, appeals to people who want a more interesting experience.”

While Airbnb started when its tech worker founders leased air mattresses to cover their San Francisco rent, now, most registered spaces are akin to real bed and breakfasts. Prized features include separate entrances, dedicated back porches and separate kitchens. “Ideally you want guests to feel they’re private and won’t interfere with day-to-day life,” Captain says. Since short-term rentals occupy a gray legal area, uptight condo boards aren’t always on board. “Not everyone looks fondly at the transient population — even if these are travelers with a lot of money.”

Nearby L transportation and a tourist-friendly neighborhood are key, which is why Andersonville’s 1415 W. Balmoral, a beautiful vintage building with three units — including a cozy garden four-room apartment, perfect for short stays — is a good option at $699,000 (call VibeRENT broker Bill Navarre at 312-285-6130).
Breaking history

The new Victory Gardens play explores the many layers of family

BY THOMAS CONNORS

All happy families are alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way.” The opening line of Tolstoy’s novel, Anna Karenina, has been quoted so often you’d think it would have lost its significance by now. But whether in life or the imagination, family drama never ceases to hold our attention. Playwrights, of course, have long found inspiration in the ups and downs of parents and children (not to mention aunts, uncles and all the rest) and for Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, that most basic social unit continues to prove a fine format in which to examine life as it is lived. “Appropriate,” his tale of a family coming to grips with its Southern roots, begins previews at Victory Gardens Theater on Nov. 8.

Inevitably, family dramas delve into family history, but sometimes, that history extends beyond hearth and home to reflect the attitudes and actions of society at large. Such is the case in “Appropriate,” as three adult children return to Arkansas to clear out the plantation of their deceased father and find themselves in a situation that extends far beyond deciding what to save and what to toss. And while Jacobs-Jenkins has, in previous works, riffed on the 19th-century melodrama of interracial romance and played on the heritage of the minstrel show, these pieces are as much about the deeper meanings of history as they are about the specific scenarios and people depicted.

“I am constantly told I write about race,” he says. “I write, specifically, about ideas of Americanness and how people live with history. But I guess because I’m black and occasionally black people appear in my plays, I write about race? I don’t know.”

Jacobs-Jenkins — who says Sam Shepard’s plays were in mind when he wrote “Appropriate” — also cites Tennessee Williams as a kind of ever-constant creative lodestar. “I’ve learned a lot about writing by just reading everything he’s ever done. I probably read or see ‘A Streetcar Named Desire’ a couple of times a year. I also love ‘Cat on a Hot Tin Roof,’ which technically is the equivalent of watching an amazing gymnast.”

Williams, of course, drew from his personal experience in penning “The Glass Menagerie.” But as Jacobs-Jenkins suggests, the convergence of a playwright’s life and art must always be taken with a grain of salt. “I think when you’re writing about family, you can’t help drawing from your own experience. That being said, this play is definitely not autobiography, so much as ‘emotional biography.”
Eric Close is one of the few stars of "Nashville" who doesn't play a musician — but that doesn't mean that the Midwest native will be able to avoid the stage forever. "People have been bugging me and saying I should take voice lessons and sing next," he laughs. "I'd try it out."

For now, though, Close — who plays politician Teddy Conrad on the hit ABC series — is content to listen to the sweet sounds of co-stars Connie Britton, Hayden Panettiere and Charles Esten. "Everyone who sings on the show [really] sings, and everyone who plays instruments really plays instruments," he says. "It's so much fun to watch." And though their characters may occasionally clash onscreen, Close says that the cast is inseparable in real life. "We go out together, we work out together and we get our families together. It's a fun time."

Role call: "My agent sent me the script, and right away I loved it. I've always been a big fan of country music, and I did a Lifetime movie with Garth Brooks. Also, I have music producer friends who have always been bugging me to come to Nashville. I was intrigued by the role and the political element. I also loved that my character was married to Rayna [Connie Britton]."

Prep work: "I studied speeches — I wanted to get a kind of understanding of the energy a politician exhibits. I'd like to see Teddy continue to battle with the good and bad side of politics and power. I would like to see him find a healthy relationship. The first season, it was about his struggle with Rayna. Now that he's not married to Rayna, he gets to spread his wings and be his own man."

Down South: "I live in Nashville, [but] my wife and daughters are still in LA. They've been coming down to visit me — they may move here. The people [here] are really kind. There's a guy on our crew who got terminal cancer, and everyone pulled together a fundraiser for him. That's an example of the community here."

Chicago connection: "I lived in the Midwest for eight years — Indiana and Michigan. Growing up in the Midwest had a big impact on me. I still have family and friends living all over. There's a lot I love about Chicago. I really love Kingston Mines because I love the blues. When it's freezing cold in the dead of winter it's harsh, but in the summer, you can't beat it."

Watch "Nashville" Wednesday nights at 9 p.m. on ABC.
sunday dinner

TALKING CHOP

Meat, music, cocktails and mingling are all on the menu at Bucktown’s Chop Shop  BY MOLLY EACH

Nick Moretti, owner of Bucktown’s newly opened Chop Shop, had an ambitious vision when designing the hybrid butcher shop, bar, restaurant and event space. “I wanted to create a concept that could appeal to multiple demographics, as well as Chicago’s love of meat, music and craft beer and cocktails,” he says. “[Combining] all the things Chicago loves, under one roof, was something that hadn’t been done before.”

To execute his idea, Moretti compiled an all-star team of partners. Helming the butcher shop is Mario Minelli, whose family owns 50-year-old Minelli Meats in Niles. Event producer and audio-visual expert Matt Woodburn leads the charge on 1st Ward, the 5,000-square-foot adjacent event space. And to head up the kitchen, the team brought in Joshua Marelli, formerly of Urban Union. “We’re seasonal and approachable,” Marelli says. “We’re taking very simple ingredients, letting them shine and not overcomplicating things.” Marelli applies this philosophy to lunch, dinner and brunch, and notes that a late-night menu — catering to industry folks — is on the way.

While we recommend a visit to the event space and the butcher area — stocked with wine, cheese and meats from within 100 miles — let’s dig into what makes the restaurant and bar a must-try:

Vibe: Comfortable, urban chic. The second-floor dining room has exposed brick and wood tables, with bright red seating and the eye-level view of the Blue Line L rolling by across the street provides the ultimate city element — though it’s not so loud as to drown out conversation.

Signature dish: “The chicken dish [$19] represents us the best,” Marelli says. “It’s honey but refined.” The meat is sous-vide, then pan-fried, and the drumstick is cooked confit for added flavor and richness.

Drinks: Dan De Los Monteros, formerly of The Bedford, has created a precise craft cocktail menu that caters to a range of palates. Sip on classics like an Old Fashioned, made with Bulleit bourbon, whiskey barrel-aged bitters and bourbon smoked sugar, or the fruitier
I TRENDING NOW

> Tom Ford: Ultra Shine lip color in Vanilla Suede $49, Neiman Marcus, 737 N. Michigan; Neimanmarcus.com
"He has moved into cosmetics and I am loyal. His nude and beige lipstick shades are the best out there."

> Apple: iPad, starts at $499, 679 N. Michigan; Apple.com
Smythson: iPad case, $550, Smythson.com
"I'm addicted to box sets and movies. Plus, the iPad carries all my work and books. It has become irreplaceable and rightly deserves a cover. I love the petrol blue croc from Smythson."

> Beats by Dre: headphones, start at $199.95, Best Buy, 2650 N. Clark; Bestbuy.com
"For training, running and movie-watching with the best sound and style."

Converse: All Star slip, $55, Nordstrom, 55 E. Grand; Nordstrom.com
"No way do I travel without them. Navy blue, cream or light gray, these shoes are essential on any trip."

< Ray-Ban: Wayfarers, start at $130, Spex Optical, 44 E. Chicago, Spexoptical.com
"Every girl needs her shades. These come in navy and orange or tortoiseshell."

< Zadig and VOltair: little zip bags, start at $80; Zadig-et-voltaire.com
"A mix of cool colors, blues and dusky, funky prints. I have about three on-the-go at any time. They are so useful for bits and pieces, a passport, makeup, etc."

< Vivienne Westwood: Boudoir eau de perfume, $56; Viviennewestwood.com
"My scent. I don't feel dressed without it."

> Thompson Chicago hotel's London-based interior designer, Tara Bernerd, shares the travel necessities that make far-flung locales feel familiar.

Globe-Trotter: luggage, $1,749, George Greene, 49 E. Oak; George-greene.com
"The British racing green is handsome – I just don't do black. It's sturdy, too, and comes with me everywhere."

> Vince: fur vest, $2,175, Saks Fifth Avenue, 700 N. Michigan; Saksfifthavenue.com
"Winter means a little fur, and Vince has triumphed this year. That, combined with one of my favorite vintage Dolce & Gabbana leather jackets, is how I always travel."
-Sarah Jordan
Pastry Chef at GT Fish & Oyster / BOKA
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BY JOHN STEIN
For Sun-Times Media

I recently had a chance to drive the 2014 Dodge Durango Citadel. This Durango has an enticing aggressive look that grabs your attention, starting with the front grille treatment moving back across the muscular fender bulges over the smooth roofline down to the 20-inch painted aluminum rims and the bright-tipped dual exhaust ports.

The Durango Citadel headlights and fog lamps are now projector-beam units, and the forward models like Citadel get upgraded LED running-light strips. I really like the new full-width LED taillight display. It adds to the brawniness of the entire Durango package.

Inside the cabin you will immediately be impressed with the freshened dash look. My Citadel, base-priced at $41,395, came with standard leather seating and an long list of upgraded technology and convenience features.

In the center of the dash there is a huge 8.4-inch touch-screen display. From the navigation system and audio control status to the media hub and Uconnect status, the screen allows for easy reading and operation.

Front-row seating is ample and adjustable. The second-row captain's chairs were an $895 option. These can tumble and fold flat. An optional center console in back provides 10 cup holders, USB port and a power outlet ($300).

Small passengers need only apply for the third-row seating, but it was accessible and comfortable for the young ones I allowed to go back there.

The optional rear-seat entertainment package now features a Blu-ray player and a pair of seatback-mounted, high-resolution 9-inch screens.

The Durango gets Chrysler's new eight-speed automatic transmission, which is paired to either the standard 3.6-liter Pentastar V-6 or the available 5.7-liter Hemi V-8. A new rotary shift knob allows for easy handling. While the V-6 offers 290 horsepower and 260 lb.-ft. of torque, the V-8 powers up 360 ponies and 390 lb.-ft. of torque.

Towing capacities are 6,200 pounds for the V-6, 7,400 pounds with rear-drive V-8s, while all-wheel-drive V-8s can pull 7,200 pounds. Fuel economy is modest at 14 city and 22 highway.

The Durango is a safe vehicle to lock yourself into and the 2014 model offers a new radar-based forward-collision warning and crash mitigation, a driver's-side knee airbag, and Uconnect Access's ability to contact help in an emergency.

The Durango competes directly with Ford Explorer and the Honda Pilot, which are no match visually for the brawny Durango, and with the V8 REMI there is little discussion of comparative power.

My Citadel tester, with options, totaled $45,630, not bad for looks, big lifestyle points and REMI power.
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Change is coming

Boomers bet Lake Chapin Shores will prove a winner

Over 81 million Americans born between 1946 and 1964, the Baby Boom generation, comprise about 26 percent of the population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 survey findings. StageofLife.com reports that 36 percent of these Boomers will move or plan to move when they become "Empty-Nesters."

These older but better Boomers in the Midwest are looking at second homes within easy driving distance that can become their primary residence when they are ready to downsize or retire, but serve as a comfortable vacation opportunity for the whole family in the meantime.

A great example of a new and highly successful community with second/vacation homes built to accommodate a changing family size and active lifestyle is located just 90 minutes from Chicago, in southwest Michigan. Ranging from 1,300 to 3,200 square feet of contemporary living space on one to three levels (not including decks and porches), the homes at Lake Chapin Shores offer flexible, open floor plans and low maintenance living in a secure community, surrounded by scenic views of the 600-acre all-sports lake and plenty of options for outdoor activities and social networking.

Lake Chapin Shores homeowners Carole and Gary report that it was a family decision to build, and that they asked their grown children, who have children of their own, if they built it would they use it. They do.

"We like the feeling when we come up here that we're going away, like a vacation," Gary said. "I like the proximity. It's not intimidating to drive up here, only an hour and 40 minutes from home, door-to-door," Carole said.

Couples at Lake Chapin Shores find a safe haven for quality time together, including dinners for two at local fine dining spots, a cruise on the lake or a walk along its shore, a dip in the pool, golf at local country clubs or public courses, a tour of the county's wineries or bike-riding along tranquil country roads. For children and grandchildren, there is a playground, heated pool, dockside fishing and plenty to do in the surrounding area, including beaches, ice cream parlors, sandwich and pastry shops, kayaking, bike riding and every type of vacation-time sport, year-round. A concierge service is available to help homeowners prepare for special events such as family reunions and holiday parties.

The Lake Chapin Shores hideaway features 21 home sites, each with a different elevation and panoramic views, direct lake access, heated pool, a variety of floor plan choices with 12 flexible construction design options geared to convenient, hassle-free living. Each model includes open floor plans, with cherry or maple cabinetry, choice of natural granite countertops, energy efficient appliances, cozy gas or wood-burning fireplace and terrific views with screened porches and expansive decks. Models are adapted to fit the specific needs of individual owners by Fenner Homes, a certified "green" builder and an expert in helping families create living space that meets their needs and requirements. Materials and equipment are high quality, selected for quiet efficiency, durability and the need for little or no maintenance.

Plan a day trip to southwest Michigan and Lake Chapin Shores. Call 888-TO-MICHIGAN (888-866-4244) for an appointment to tour the community, the model home and our last remaining six lots. 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.

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Presbyterian Homes helps make good choices

For more than 100 years, Presbyterian Homes' communities have been dedicated to providing the most comprehensive approach to wellness and a maintenance-free lifestyle, offering residents daily opportunities for engagement and enrichment. Those who call these communities "home" enjoy a variety of robust programs and activities that allow them to explore their passions and discover new interests.

Choices is Presbyterian Homes' new multi-faceted program that offers residents a varied selection of activities within the seven dimensions of wellness: social, physical, environmental, spiritual, community, emotional and intellectual.

With programs ranging from book clubs or current event discussions, to acrylic painting and daily fitness classes, residents are encouraged to explore new interests that they may not have previously considered.

One resident even noted that she never would have started painting if it hadn't been for the Choices Program at her community.

The Choices Program includes activities that focus on the social, physical, spiritual, emotional, intellectual, environmental and community needs of the resident.

This includes activities such as newcomer dinners and mixers before meals (social), personal trainers and personalized exercise programs (physical), weekly religious services on-campus (spiritual), and theater.

Other activities include concerts, films and art shows on and off-campus (emotional), lifelong learning at nearby colleges (intellectual), community gardens (environmental) and volunteer opportunities (community). New activities are introduced regularly.

Participation in the Choices Program has helped a number of Presbyterian Homes residents age well and remain active.

Staying involved was important for Lake Forest Place residents, Dick and Jane Lorenz, when considering a community.

"Aging well" was our top priority when we were making our decision to move to a retirement community. You need to be able to enjoy life and we wanted a maintenance-free community that offered a variety of social and wellness opportunities.

"Presbyterian Homes offers the lifestyle we enjoy. This is the best time of our lives. We know we made the right decision."

Each Presbyterian Homes community provides a range of amenities and wellness opportunities including state-of-the-art fitness centers and swimming pools, unsurpassed dining options, beautiful campus grounds and the Choices Program.

The Choices Program provides outlets for residents to get more out of life by getting more involved in life.

To learn more about the Presbyterian Homes communities located in Evanston, Arlington Heights and Lake Forest, visit the Website at www.presbyterianhomes.org or call (847) 886-1641.
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Made a Smart Decision

"Living at The Moorings has allowed me to explore many activities that interest me and to make new connections."

Vivian has called The Moorings home for almost four years now. She decided it was wise to move to a community where she could live maintenance-free and have access to health care if needed. She currently serves as the president of the Resident Council, plays mahjong and exercises in the fitness center regularly.

TAKE THE FIRST STEP IN MAKING YOUR Smart Decision

Call today and schedule a visit of one of our communities.

DISCOVER MORE:
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Madeline takes the stage at Skokie Library

BY MYRNA PETLICICI
For Sun-Times Media

A young Parisian girl learns that first impressions aren't always accurate in "Madeline and the Bad Hat." ArtsPower's original musical adaptation of Ludwig Bemelmans' book will be presented at Skokie Public Library, 6215 Oakton St., 7-8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8.

"Madeline is challenged by her new next door neighbor Pepito. He is a mischief maker who is also mean to animals," said ArtsPower's Artistic Director Greg Gunning, who adapted and directs the show. But when Madeline gets to know Pepito, and finds out how lonely he is, her friendship helps make him a better person.

"Kids hopefully will see first impressions aren't always right," Gunning said. "And that trying to understand other people can lead to a better world for all of us."

The Glenview native also hopes that seeing this show will inspire young people to read the books in the Madeline series.

Free tickets will be available at 6:30 p.m. that day.

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

BUBBLING OVER

There's more fun in store at the Skokie Public Library, 6215 Oakton St., 4-5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 11. Ben Jiminez will create bubbles within bubbles, smoke bubbles, spinning belt bubbles and more during Ben's Bubble Show. He will even put a person in a bubble. Pick up tickets at 3:30 p.m. that day.

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

DINOSAUR DESCENDANTS?

Families will learn about the relationship between reptiles and dinosaurs when Cold Blooded Creatures visits the Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., 2-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9. You will see and touch live alligators, snakes, lizards and a tortoise and learn about these often misunderstood animals.

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

CROOD AWAKENING

A caveman family must trek through an unfamiliar world after their cave is destroyed in "The Croods." Learn how they navigate the foreign terrain with the help of a boy during Afternoon at the Movies, 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9 at Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave.

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

Hairy Rescue

Can a bumbling Prince rescue a fair maiden from a high tower? Find out when young actors present David Crane and Marta Kaufman's musical version of the Grimm's fairy tale, "Rapunzel," 6:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15-17, at Gorilla Tango's Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave. Tickets are $10.

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

Help your children feel empowered, strong and confident by creating a family ‘safety plan’ using these tips from Pattie Fitzgerald, founder of Safely Ever After Inc.

Stay positive and use a light touch

“Ninety percent of harm that comes to children comes from an adult they know,” Fitzgerald said. “This fact is just one of the many reasons why it’s so important for parents to move beyond teaching about stranger danger and focus instead on the many ways kids can use their heads and hearts to stay safe.”

Fitzgerald’s background in early childhood education, coupled with her work as an outreach educator for the child advocacy group Parents for Megan’s Law, has helped her create a comprehensive and non-scary approach to safety. “The key is to educate kids to feel empowered and strong and know how to identify and handle tricky situations,” she said.

Help kids understand boundaries

Teach your kids that they are the ‘boss’ of their bodies, which means private (anything that is traditionally covered with a bathing suit) should stay private and that no one is allowed to touch their bodies without their permission. Additionally, Fitzgerald advocates teaching kids to listen to their ‘uh-oh’ feeling, which means if something makes them feel uncomfortable or yucky, they should take notice and tell their parents.

“Parents need to listen to their instincts too,” Fitzgerald said. “If someone seems to be paying a little too much attention to your child or acts in a way that makes you feel uncomfortable, take notice and change the situation.”

Create a family safety plan

Keeping our kids safe takes a lot of communication. It also takes some common sense and proactive thinking. When creating a safety plan for your family, consider basic rules that can help your kids ‘play it safe.’ For example, Fitzgerald advises a ‘check-first’ philosophy, which means kids need to check with their parents before they go anywhere, change plans or get into someone’s car (even if it’s someone they know). Not only does this rule help children slow down and not act impulsively, but it also helps keep parents in the loop about what their kids are doing and where they are going.

As a mom of an 8-year-old, I really like Fitzgerald’s approach to safe and unsafe adult behaviors. For example, “Safe grownups don’t ask kids for help, but rather go to other grownups for assistance.”

Additionally, “Safe adults also don’t ask kids to keep secrets, especially secrets that make kids feel badly or uncomfortable.”

For more information about Fitzgerald and her ‘play it safe’ rules, visit http://safelyeverafter.com.

Books and videos

Start the safety conversation with these books and videos that help promote safe practices and strategies.

- "NO Trespassing — This Is MY Body!" by Pattie Fitzgerald
- "Super Duper Safety School: Safety Rules For Kids & Grown-Ups!" by Pattie Fitzgerald
- "My Body Belongs to Me" by Jill Starishevsky (www.mybodybelongstome.com)
- "Ruby’s Studio: The Safety Show" (http://shop.rubysstudio.com)

"Boss of my Body" (a super-cute music video posted on YouTube). Watch it with your kids and sing along! http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZAALZoaGNDw

Family safety event

Join Ruby of Ruby’s Studio for free events on Nov. 9.

1. Red carpet screening of "The Safety Show." This sweet and gentle video includes animated clips, songs and stories to help kids learn to stay safe.

   Time: 10 a.m. — noon

   Location: Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 State St., Chicago


   Time: 2-4 p.m.

   Location: 141 N. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park

For more information and tickets visit: http://www.themotherco.com/2013/10/announcingthesafetyshow/.

Disclosure: Beth Engelmann provides social media branding for The Mother Company (owner of Ruby’s Studio).
Dining Out Trip
11:30 a.m.: The senior center will be taking a trip to Jolene’s Restaurant and Bar in Glenview. Cost includes transportation. Registration required. For adults ages 55 and up. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-3597. $7-$8.

Patti Vasquez
8 p.m.: The comic and co-star of “My Life is a Joke” on the Oprah Winfrey Network, performs. Zanies Comedy Night Club Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont. Call 847-966-5522. $35-$80.

Jimmy Shubert
8 p.m.: The comic and actor from “King of Queens” and “Entourage” performs. Zanies Comedy Night Club Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont. Call 847-966-5522. $35-$80.

15th Anniversary All Souls’ Jazz Festival
8 p.m.: Friends of Cracow Society in Chicago present the 15th All Souls’ Jazz Festival (Zaduszki Jazzowe in Chicago), stemming from the oldest jazz festival in Poland. More than 40 jazz musicians will perform on two stages. Copernicus Center, 5216 S. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. For more information, call 847-933-8208.

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.

Transportation is provided from MPLC. Bring money for dinner. Must be 6 and over to attend. Children 6 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Main Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sibley St., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-5127.

Lincoln
2 p.m.: This 2012 film tells the story of Abraham Lincoln's struggle to preserve the Union while abolishing slavery. Starring Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field and Tommy Lee Jones. 50 minutes. Abraham Lincoln’s struggle to preserve the Union while abolishing slavery. Call 847-448-7827.

Xmas Christmas
7:30 p.m.: The Rising Stars Theatre Company presents the Broadway version of the 1954 Paramount classic film. Performances Nov. 9 through Nov. 24 beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays. The Stahl Family Theatre, 5900 W. Belmont Road, Chicago. For more information, call 773-736-2490.

Arab Idol 2013 Stars
8 p.m.: Stars from the most recent series of Arab Idol perform. Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. $75-$250. For more information, call 847-671-5100.

Tom Kastle
8 p.m.: The Second Saturday Coffee-house features folk singer-songwriter Kastle. In addition to maritime songs, he will be including material from his solo album, “Across the Center Line.” Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. For more information, call 847-677-3334. $8.

Fun-Friday Day
9 a.m.: Students ages 6 to 12 can enjoy the day off from school with a day of fun activities and a trip to the movie theater to see a newly-released movie. Bring a sack lunch. Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation, 6820 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove. For more information, call 847-966-5522. $36-$82.

Holiday Big Band Dinner Dance
2 p.m.: The event features a live orchestra playing big band music, dancing, dinner, raffles and a cash bar. Centre to see a newly-released movie. Bring a sack lunch. Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation, 6820 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove. For more information, call 847-966-5522. $45-$100.

Veterans Day Ceremony
11 a.m.: Veterans’ Memorial Waterfall, West Touhy Avenue and North Milwaukee Avenue, Niles. For more information, call 847-588-8000.

Sensory Story Time
11 a.m.: Hands-on learning engaging all senses, a DJ, face painting and a special performance by Inspiración Dance Chicago. Proceeds benefit the Council of Catholic Women and its parish ministries, as well as projects serving groups throughout the area. Mary, Seat of Wisdom Parish, 920 Granville Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-625-0618. $25 for adults; $10 for children 4-12.

Bobby Stayton
7 p.m.: The veteran comic, known as “The Pitbull of Comedy,” performs. Zanies Comedy Night Club Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont. Call 847-813-0848. $25.

White Christmas
7:30 p.m.: The Stahl Family Theatre, 5900 W. Belmont Road, Chicago. For more information, call 773-736-2490.

Veterns Day Pancake Breakfast
8:30 a.m.: Veterans and their families are welcome to enjoy a pancake breakfast. Community Center, 4510 25th Ave., Schiller Park.

Holiday Boutique
10:30 a.m.: The boutique features vendors with creative merchandise for all ages, including jewelry, clothing, craft items, toys, books and more. Runs 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Beth Hillel Congregation, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette. Call 847-256-1213.

Our Home Town Heroes
11 a.m.: Join the M-NASR in commemorating Veterans Day. The group will decorate yellow ribbons and put together care packages to send to soldiers on active duty. Veterans guests are free but must be registered before the event. Lunch, snacks and all supplies are included in the cost. Attendees must be 18 or older. Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation, 6820 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove. For more information, please call 847-966-5522. $36-$82.

Fun-Christmas Day
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Linda Eder

‘An Evening of Comedy’
8 p.m.: Join Skokie author and comedienne Debbie Sue Goodman and her friends for an evening of comedy. Goodman is author of “My Husband the Stranger;” “Still Single” and “Still Dating.” Caffe Piccolo, 2890 W. Peterson Ave., Chicago. For more information, call 773-465-1483.
GO CALENDAR

the senses through music, movement, stories and play. Ideal for children ages 3 to 6 with autism or sensory processing issues. Participating families are welcome to stay for an additional 30-minute multi-sensory play time after the program. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

**Veterans Day Celebration**
12:30 p.m.: Author Cyndee Schaffer will present "Mollie's War" written by Cyndee and her mother Mollie Weinstein Schaffer, a WAC during World War II. Lunch will be catered. For adults ages 55 and up. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-3597. $17-$19.

**Trivia Night**
8 p.m.: Winners receive gift cards. Specials include $4 Budweiser products and 60-cent wings. Buffalo Wild Wings, 7020 Carpenter Road, Skokie. Call 847-329-3333.

**Tuesday, Nov. 12**
**Film: 'The Intouchables'**
11:30 a.m.: Based on a true story, "The Intouchables" depicts the friendship between a quadriplegic millionaire and his caregiver, a streetwise ex-con. Stars Francois Cluzet and Omar Sy. 112 minutes. Call 847-929-5101 or visit www.mgpl.org to learn more. Morton Grove Public Library, 6640 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

**Feature Film: 'Much Ado About Nothing'**
2 p.m.: This 2012 film puts a contemporary spin on Shakespeare's classic comedy. It stars Nathan Fillion and Alexis Denisof. 109 minutes. The film will be shown a second time at 9 p.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

**Kolackies for the Holidays**
8:30 a.m.: Author and food blogger Amy Alessio will explore the history behind this special treat. Participants should bring 25 copies of a cookie recipe to share. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. For more information, please call 708-867-7028. $3.

**Wednesday, Nov. 13**
**Robbie Sings the Greatest Hits of George & Ira Gershwin**
10:30 a.m.: Vocalist Robbie Malkowski and jazz pianist Dave Turner perform the best of Gershwin. Registration required. Niles Public Library District, 6950 W. Oakton St., Niles. For more information, call 847-663-6648.

**ARC Fall Harvest Pizza Party**
6:30 p.m.: Author and food blogger Amy Kolackies for the Holidays teach flower arranging for the holidays. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. For more information, please call 708-867-7028.$22.

**Friday, Nov. 15**
**'Rapunzel'**
6:30 p.m.: From David Crane and Marta Kauffman, the creators of the hit TV show "Friends," comes a musical interpretation of the classic fairy tale. Performances will be held at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 15 and 2 and 6:30 p.m. Nov. 16 and 2 p.m. Nov. 17. Gorilla Tango Skokie, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. For more information, call 847-677-7761. $10.

**Richard Lewis**
8 p.m.: The comic legend and "Curb Your Enthusiasm" actor performs. Zanies Comedy Night Club Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont. Call 847-813-0484, $35.

**Saturday, Nov. 16**
**Holiday Boutique & Luncheon**
9 a.m.: The boutique will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with an assortment of local artists and their special hand-crafted items, as well as fair trade merchants and their gifts. Lunch will be served at noon ($20) with a special performance by the Angeli Choir. Park Ridge Community Church, 100 Courtland Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-823-3164.

**'You Don't Know Jack: The Other Side of the Beanstalk'**
4 p.m.: A house has been ransacked. A golden hen is missing and presumed dead. And, the soothingsong once plucked from a precious harp have been replaced by piercing silence. Join the villainous Jack for an adventure to see the other side of the beanstalk. Runs 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, Nov. 16-24. Gorilla Tango Skokie, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-7761. $12.

**Jake Johanns**
7 p.m.: The comic, known for his frequent appearances on "The Late Show," performs. Zanies Comedy Night Club Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont. Call 847-813-0484.$25.

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Texas-size performances drive ‘Buyers Club’

BY BRUCE DINGRAM
Film Critic

If his recent career-changing performances in “Killer Joe,” “Magic Mike” and “Mud” still haven’t convinced you that there’s a lot more to Matthew McConaughey than looking good shirtless, “Dallas Buyers Club” should do the trick.

In addition to losing 40 pounds for his role as the redneck hell-raiser Ron Woodroof, who extended his own life and many others during the early days of the AIDS crisis by providing unapproved alternative treatments (for a price), McConaughey also gives a risky performance that’s borderline repellent at times. Redemption is involved eventually, but when it finally rolls around, he makes it clear that no one is more surprised than Woodroof himself.

“Dallas Buyers Club” opens in 1985, with small-time hustler and part-time bull rider Woodroof taking bets at a rodeo and making snide jokes about a newspaper headline announcing that Rock Hudson is dying of AIDS. A short time later, he’s running for his life from angry customers and not long after that he’s blacking out in his trailer and regaining consciousness in a hospital.

Where doctors inform him that he has HIV and roughly 30 days to live.

Woodroof is more upset, though, by their implication that he might be homosexual. In the end, he declares “nothin’ out there can kill Ron Woodroof in 30 days,” which turns out to be correct, before going back to his usual routine of drinking, drugging and engaging in presumably unprotected sex.

Woodroof is sick enough, though, that he does a little research, accepts that he really does have HIV, and learns there’s only one drug — AZT — that might keep him alive. And also that he can’t get his hands on it because it’s in the early stages of human trials.

What follows is complicated, but in essence Woodroof finds a way to hustle some AZT in Dallas, then travels to Mexico to get more. There, a kindly disbarred doctor (Griffin Dunne) treats him successfully with vitamins, supplements and medications unapproved (but not illegal) in the U.S. — and the hustler in Woodroof makes him realize he could make a lot of money if he took a large supply of the same back to Dallas.

At that point, “Dallas Buyers Club” becomes a story about the hard-fought battle between Woodroof and the FDA regarding Woodroof’s right to sell that treatment. And while Woodroof is keeping a sizeable portion of Dallas’ gay community alive, he’s also strictly in it for the money.

It’s further complicated by his uneasy and increasingly personal relationship with his business partner, the tragic yet feisty transsexual Rayon (Jared Leto).

“Dallas Buyers Club” is a fascinating story of survival through pure orneriness, but most of all, it’s a must-see for the heavyweight performances of its two lead actors, both of them surely Oscar contenders.
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THURSDAY NOVEMBER 7 2013

FILM CLIPS

OPENING FRIDAY

ABOUT TIME

Rated R for language and some sexual content
Stars: Domhnall Gleeson, Rachel McAdams, Bill Nighy, Tom Hollander

The typically charming "About Time" is the best of screenwriter Richard "Four Weddings and a Funeral" Curtis's attempts to direct his own work, after "Love Actually" and "Pirate Radio," and it's likely to leave fans satisfactorily amused, teary and uplifted — though perhaps a bit too overtly manipulated. When nervously likeable young Tim (Gleeson) learns from his dad (Nighy at his best) that he has inherited the gift of time travel, he uses it to aggressively woo his perfect soulmate (McAdams, an experienced hand after "The Time Traveler's Wife") — correcting whatever bumbling errors he makes along the way. All is delightful until around the halfway point, when "About Time" shifts into family-melodrama overdrive.

THE BEST MAN HOLIDAY

Rated R for language, sexual content and brief nudity
Stars: Monica Calhoun, Terrence Howard, Morris Chestnut, Taye Diggs, Nia Long

A group of college friends find their old relationships challenged when they reunite for a holiday celebration. Malcolm D. Lee ("The Best Man") wrote and directed the sequel to his 1999 hit.

DALLAS BUYERS CLUB

***/2
Rated R for pervasive language, some strong sexual content, nudity and drug use
Stars: Matthew McConaughey, Jared Leto, Jennifer Garner

A fascinating story of survival through pure orneriness, "Dallas Buyers Club" is also well worth seeing for the performances of two almost sure-fire Oscar nominees. McConaughey (definitively proving there's more to him than looking good shirtless) is borderline repellent at times in the role of lowlife redneck homophobic hell-raiser Ron Woodroof, who was quite dismayed to learn in 1985 that he had the AIDS virus and was expected to die in 30 days. And Leto, who like McConaughey lost 40 pounds for the role, is simply great as the tragic yet tough and feisty transsexual Rayon — Woodroof's customer liaison, with whom he develops an uneasy, increasingly personal relationship.

HOW I LIVE NOW

Rated R for violence, disturbing images, language and some sex
Stars: Saoirse Ronan, Tom Holland, George MacKay

Blue Is The Warmest Color

Rated NC-17 for explicit sexual content
Stars: Léa Seydoux, Adele Exarchopoulos, Salim Kechiouche

The life of a young French woman (Exarchopoulos) changes greatly when she falls in love with an older female art student (Seydoux). Abdellatif Kechiche ("The Secret of the Grain") directed the erotic drama.

ENDER'S GAME

***/2
Rated PG-13 for some violence, sci-fi action and thematic material
Stars: Harrison Ford, Asa Butterfield, Hailee Steinfeld

There's a lot to admire about this surprisingly substantial sci-fi spectacular, but the best thing is its radical assumption that kids might respond to a story driven by weighty moral issues. After barely surviving an attack by the ant-like Formic race, the Earth has decided its brightest children, including a soulful-eyed prodigy named Ender (Butterfield, almost as good here as he was in "Hugo"), are best suited for the high-tech, computer-driven war of the future. But after proving himself in training, the new commander of Earth's armies is conflicted by the order to extinguish the enemy with a massive preemptive strike.
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The fight to turn tide against widespread disease continues

According to the American Diabetes Association, nearly 26 million children and adults in the United States have diabetes. Another 79 million Americans have prediabetes and are at risk for developing Type 2 diabetes. Recent estimates project that as many as one in three American adults will have diabetes in 2050 unless measures are taken to reduce the incidence of diabetes.

And this is a costly epidemic—both to one's health and wallet. The ADA estimates that the total national cost of diagnosed diabetes in the United States is $245 billion. Direct medical costs reach $176 billion and the average medical expenditure among people with diabetes is 2.3 times higher than those without the disease. Indirect costs amount to $69 billion (disability, work loss, premature mortality).

For the millions of people living with the disease, managing it can be a daily grind. Inside this section, learn about:

- Local programs that help people with diabetes
- Initiatives that target demographics that have the highest incidence of the disease
- The latest research, nutritional guidelines and potential prevention and treatment breakthroughs
- How diabetes affects hearing
- Efforts to raise awareness about what it's like to live with diabetes
Leading the way to wellness

Lake County program helping residents manage their diabetes

By Wendy Altschuler

Diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes when her husband was serving in Iraq, Beatriz Mari of North Chicago struggled with the disease for several years. But now she’s got the assistance of Be Well-Lake County, a local program that is helping her to get her diabetes under control.

Be Well-Lake County, a partnership among NorthShore University HealthSystem (a system that includes four hospitals — Evanston, Glenview, Highland Park and Skokie), the Lake County Health Department and the Community Health Center, helps patients manage their diabetes — a disease that affects 7.3 percent of adults in Lake County and is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States.

Through education, support and fitness groups, on-site hemoglobin Alc testing, medication assistance, testing supplies, nutritional counseling and a team of professional health-care providers, patients of Be Well-Lake County are better equipped to deal with the challenges that a major life-threatening disease presents. The Be Well experts recommended physical activities and nutritional changes for Mari.

“I feel more positive and energetic physically and mentally,” Mari said. “I enjoy my life more as a result of all these changes. The Be Well program taught me about my condition and how I can live with it; it has given me, and my family, a better quality of life.”

The program, offered at Lake County Health Department’s North Chicago Community Health Center and the Belvidere Medical Building in Waukegan, grants disadvantaged low-income diabetics invaluable access to health care and resources. Much of the philanthropic support, which makes this program possible, comes directly from The Auxiliary at Highland Park Hospital and individual donations.

“Our purpose is to provide management and to improve the outcome of underserved patients with diabetes,” said Christy Arnold, coordinator of the Be Well-Lake County program. “An interdisciplinary model, that includes data and research to measure outcomes, is a strong component. When patients come in, they meet the doctor, nurse, case manager and the dietitian all in one visit; they don’t need separate appointments and they learn who their whole team is.”

And the program extends beyond hospital walls. For example, in Be Well-Lake County’s community garden initiative, patients plant and grow vegetables, receive instruction on how to best prepare the yield through cooking demonstrations via dietitian instruction, and then the patients get to bring some of the food home with them.

According to Arnold, who is also a dietitian and a diabetes educator, patients get all of their needs met through Be Well-Lake County. For example, even translators are available for the large population of Spanish speakers.

“Our purpose is to provide management and to improve the outcome of underserved patients with diabetes.”

Christy Arnold, coordinator of the Be Well-Lake County program

“Another thing we do with our partnership with NorthShore University HealthSystem, our funder that makes everything possible, is refer our patients, a majority of which are self-paying, to specialists that can help them,” Arnold said.

One of these accessible NorthShore University HealthSystem specialists is Harry Papagianis, DPM, a podiatrist that helps Be Well-Lake County patients.

“Collaborating on the best possible foot care for patients with diabetes is crucial to maintaining quality of life for years to come, and early recognition and treatment of any complication is critical. Be Well provides the perfect platform for preventative treatment and collaboration. The care being offered to patients with diabetes by Be Well is saving lives and limbs,” Papagianis said.

Managing diabetes is a sticky wicket for many people suffering from the disease.

“With diabetes, both Type 1 and Type II, if left unmonitored and untreated it can bring added, potentially serious complications to the patient,” Papagianis said. “Proper diabetic care is a balance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle, including proper diet and exercise, along with following treatment plans and prevention plans set in collaboration with physicians.”

But with programs like Be Well-Lake County, navigating has become much cleaner.

“I’m very proud of the program,” said patient Mari. “I belong to a group where you count as a human being.”
NOW HEAR THIS
Diabetes can damage your auditory health

BY WENDY ALTSCHULER
For Sun-Times Media

Most people know that diabetes can cause vision problems. But did you know that the disease can also damage your hearing?

"Outside of the medical world, very few people know about the link between hearing loss and diabetes and even fewer people understand it," said Gloria Wong, Au.D., F-MA, CCC-A, manager at Audiology Clinic at Chicago Hearing Society, a division of Anixter Center. "Even in the medical world there still needs to be more awareness of how hearing loss impacts health. That includes the relationship between hearing loss and diabetes, but goes so much deeper when you think about cardiovascular disease, dementia, accidents and more."

The American Diabetes Association states that there are nearly 26 million Americans living with diabetes, with numbers rising. According to a study funded by the National Institutes of Health, adults with diabetes are more than twice as likely to have hearing loss than people without the disease.

"The hearing and auditory systems are also comprised of blood vessels and nerves, which may become damaged from diabetes and ultimately result in loss of hearing," Wong said. "Most people only associate hearing loss with aging, but there are clearly many other factors in play; diabetes is definitely one of them."

Jamie M. Stickley, Au.D., director of audiology at The Hearing Center, Franciscan Physician Network in Indiana, said that additional medical conditions can make diagnosing the cause of hearing loss in diabetic patients tricky.

"One of the largest barriers to finding a clear cut cause-and-effect relationship between diabetes and hearing loss is that the majority of diabetic patients also have additional medical conditions (as well as aging components and hereditary factors) that can also contribute to hearing loss," Stickley said. "However, excess sugar in your blood can lead to circulation issues and nerve damage," Stickley said. "The auditory nerve is not exempt from this damage, and the auditory system as a whole is quite sensitive to circulatory changes."

One of the most important things doctors - especially primary care physicians - can do, beyond helping patients to keep their diabetes under control, is to routinely check their patients' hearing.

"Patient education and monitoring through regular health care visits, across all healthcare disciplines, is a key component to the successful management of diabetic patients," Stickley said.

Patients should also be aware of any change in their hearing and discuss changes with their health care provider.

"Since it can happen slowly a lot of patients are not aware of the relationship between diabetes and hearing loss," said Michele Massow, a seven-year veteran at CarePoint Ear, Nose, Throat and Sinus Centers, audiolist to have an ear exam and hearing test."

Left untreated, hearing loss can lead to a wide range of physical, mental and social issues, which research shows, according to Stickley, that the short- and long-term costs of untreated hearing loss far outweigh the costs of treatment.

"Untreated hearing loss is associated with impaired memory, social isolation, reduced job performance and earning power, increased anxiety and stress, and higher incidence of cardiovascular disease," Wong said. "It should also be pointed out that hearing loss may lead to depression, which is a risk factor for Alzheimer's disease and dementia, and there is a known correlation between hearing loss and dementia according to information published by the National Institutes of Health."

Many diabetic Americans who suffer from hearing loss may find it challenging to acquire help provided through insurance plans. Often, the hearing test may be covered but the hearing aids are not.

"Most insurance covers the cost of hearing evaluations, however some require a referral from their primary care doctor for that coverage to apply, which is the case with Medicare," Stickley said. "If the patient is in need of hearing assistance for the treatment of hearing loss, approximately 80 percent of insurance policies do not cover hearing aids."

The Chicago Hearing Society believes that hearing aids and hearing healthcare costs should be covered by insurance but until it is they will strive to help people with nowhere else to go.

"The average cost of testing, fitting and purchasing hearing aids averages around three thousand to six thousand dollars depending upon hearing aid technology," Wong said. "Medicare does not cover hearing aids nor will the plans under the Affordable Health Care Act in Illinois. Unfortunately, hearing aids are not yet considered an essential health benefit in Illinois."

"Most people only associate hearing loss with aging, but there are clearly many other factors in play; diabetes is definitely one of them."

GLORIA WONG, audiologist and manager at Chicago Hearing Society
Can vitamin D prevent diabetes? Study aims to find out

Researchers have begun the first definitive, large-scale clinical trial to investigate if a vitamin D supplement helps prevent or delay Type 2 diabetes in adults who have prediabetes, who are at high risk for developing Type 2. Funded by the National Institutes of Health, the study is taking place at about 20 study sites across the United States.

The multiyear Vitamin D and Type 2 Diabetes (D2d) study will include about 2,500 people. Its goal is to learn if vitamin D — specifically D3 (cholecalciferol) — will prevent or delay Type 2 diabetes in adults ages 30 or older who have prediabetes. People with prediabetes have blood glucose levels that are higher than normal but not high enough to be called diabetes.

"This study aims to definitively answer the question: Can vitamin D reduce the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes?" said Anastassios G. Pittas, M.D., the study’s principal investigator at Tufts Medical Center, Boston.

"Vitamin D use has risen sharply in the U.S. in the last 15 years, since it has been suggested as a remedy for a variety of conditions, including prevention of Type 2 diabetes. But we need rigorous testing to determine if vitamin D will help prevent diabetes."

MYRENNE YATTEN, M.D., Vitamin D study project officer

D2d is the first study to directly examine if a daily dose of 4,000 International Units (IU) of vitamin D — greater than a typical adult intake of 600-800 IUs a day, but within limits deemed appropriate for clinical research by the Institute of Medicine — helps keep people with prediabetes from getting Type 2 diabetes. Based on observations from earlier studies, researchers speculate that vitamin D could reduce the diabetes risk by 25 percent. The study will also examine if sex, age or race affect the potential of vitamin D to reduce diabetes risk.

"An estimated 79 million Americans have prediabetes, and nearly 28 million more have diabetes," said NIDDK Director Griffin P. Rodgers, M.D. "With D2d, we seek evidence for an affordable and accessible way to help prevent or delay Type 2 diabetes."

Researchers are recruiting volunteers to take part in D2d. Half of the participants will receive vitamin D. The other half will receive a placebo — a pill that has no drug effect. Participants will have check-ups for the study twice a year, and will receive regular health care through their own health care providers.

The study will be double-blinded, so neither participants nor the study's clinical staff will know who is receiving vitamin D and who is receiving placebo. The study will continue until enough people have developed Type 2 diabetes to be able to make a scientifically valid comparison between diabetes development in the two groups, likely about four years.

Learn more about the study, including how to take part in D2d, at www.D2dstudy.org.
Today, I took steps to balance my TYPE 2 DIABETES.

Today, I took a walk and talked to my doctor.

JANUVIA works to lower blood sugar in 2 ways. Talk to your doctor about JANUVIA today.

- JANUVIA is a once-daily prescription pill that helps your body increase insulin production in your pancreas and decrease the sugar made in your liver.
- Along with diet and exercise, JANUVIA helps lower blood sugar levels in adults with type 2 diabetes.
- By itself, JANUVIA is not likely to cause weight gain or low blood sugar (hypoglycemia).

JANUVIA (jah-NEW-vee-ah) should not be used in patients with type 1 diabetes or with diabetic ketoacidosis (increased ketones in the blood or urine). If you have had pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas), it is not known if you have a higher chance of getting it while taking JANUVIA.

Selected Risk Information About JANUVIA

Serious side effects can happen in people who take JANUVIA, including pancreatitis, which may be severe and lead to death. Before you start taking JANUVIA, tell your doctor if you've ever had pancreatitis. Stop taking JANUVIA and call your doctor right away if you have pain in your stomach area (abdomen) that is severe and will not go away. The pain may be felt going from your abdomen through to your back. The pain may happen with or without vomiting. These may be symptoms of pancreatitis.

Do not take JANUVIA if you are allergic to any of its ingredients, including sitagliptin. Symptoms of serious allergic reactions to JANUVIA, including rash, hives, and swelling of the face, lips, tongue, and throat that may cause difficulty breathing or swallowing, can occur. If you have any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction, stop taking JANUVIA and call your doctor right away.

*Terms and conditions apply. Please see next page.

Please read the Medication Guide on the adjacent page for more detailed information.

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- There is no requirement for patient to purchase any product or service and refills are not required.
- By accepting this voucher, you agree to the terms hereof.
- McKesson Corporation reserves the right to audit and review all records and documentation relating to the redemption of this voucher and the dispensing of product.
- By accepting this voucher, you agree to the terms herein.
- Restrictions apply. Please see next page.

Januvia.

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What is the most important information I should know about JANUVIA?

Serious side effects can happen in people taking JANUVIA, including inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis) which may be severe and lead to death. Certain medical problems make you more likely to get pancreatitis.

Before you start taking JANUVIA:

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:
- pancreatitis
- stones in your gallbladder (gallstones)
- a history of alcoholism
- high blood triglyceride levels
- kidney problems

Who should not take JANUVIA?

Do not take JANUVIA if:
- you are allergic to any of the ingredients in JANUVIA. See the end of this Medication Guide for a complete list of ingredients in JANUVIA.
- you have had pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas) in the past, it is not known if you have a higher chance of getting pancreatitis while you take JANUVIA.
- it is not known if JANUVIA is safe and effective when used in children under 18 years of age.

How should I take JANUVIA?

You can take JANUVIA with or without food. Your doctor may tell you to take JANUVIA along with other diabetes medicines. Low blood sugar can happen more often while you take JANUVIA is taken with certain other diabetes medicines. See “What are the possible side effects of JANUVIA?”

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If you do not remember until it is time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular schedule.

What are the ingredients in JANUVIA?

- JANUVIA is a prescription medicine used along with diet and exercise to lower blood sugar in adults with type 2 diabetes.
- JANUVIA is not for people with type 1 diabetes.
- JANUVIA is not for people with diabetic ketoacidosis (increased ketones in your blood or urine).
- If you have had pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas) in the past, it is not known if you have a higher chance of getting pancreatitis while you take JANUVIA.
- It is not known if JANUVIA is safe and effective when used in children under 18 years of age.

What are the possible side effects of JANUVIA?

Serious side effects have happened in people taking JANUVIA.

See “What is the most important information I should know about JANUVIA?”

- Low blood sugar (hypoglycemia), high blood sugar (hyperglycemia), and problems you have because of your diabetes.
- Your doctor will check your diabetes with regular blood tests, including your blood sugar levels and your hemoglobin A1C.

What is type 2 diabetes?

Type 2 diabetes is a condition in which your body does not make enough insulin, and the insulin that your body produces does not work as well as it should. Your body can also make too much sugar. When this happens, sugar (glucose) builds up in the blood. This can lead to serious medical problems.

High blood sugar can be lowered by diet and exercise, and by certain medicines when necessary.

This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
New nutritional guidelines suggest one size does not fit all

The American Diabetes Association recommends all people living with diabetes make nutrition therapy a part of their diabetes treatment plan, but emphasizes that there is no single eating pattern that is best for everyone, according to a position statement published online Oct. 9 in Diabetes Care.

This position statement replaces the nutrition therapy recommendations for the management of adults with diabetes published in 2008. The 2013 statement provides a set of recommendations based on review of recent scientific evidence.

It calls for all adults diagnosed with diabetes to eat a variety of nutrient-dense foods in appropriate portion sizes as part of an eating plan that takes into account individual preferences, culture, religious beliefs, traditions and metabolic goals. Since people eat food and not single nutrients such as carbohydrates, protein and fat, the report includes a new section on eating patterns.

"Just because you have been diagnosed with diabetes does not mean you can no longer enjoy the foods you love or your cultural traditions," said Alison Evert, MS, RD, CDE, Coordinator of Diabetes Education Programs — University of Washington Medical Center, Diabetes Care Center. "Ideally the person with diabetes should be referred to a registered dietitian or participate in a diabetes self-management education program, soon after diagnosis. An important goal of nutrition therapy for adults with diabetes includes the collaborative development of an individualized eating plan with ongoing support to promote health behavior change."

Jackie Boucher, MS, RD, LD, CDE, Vice President for Education, Minneapolis Heart Institute Foundation, noted that the scientific evidence is still limited related to various eating patterns and their impact on health outcomes in individuals with diabetes. Current evidence does not strongly support one eating pattern over another.

"Whether you prefer a Mediterranean, vegetarian or lower-carbohydrate eating plan is less important than finding an eating pattern that fits your food preferences and lifestyle, can be consistently followed and that provides you with the nutrition you need for good health," she said.

In choosing an appropriate eating plan, people with diabetes should be sure to consider individual metabolic goals, such as their glucose and lipid levels and blood pressure, the statement notes.

The new guidelines also note that there is no conclusive evidence of an ideal amount of carbohydrate intake for people with diabetes. However, the authors suggest that whatever carbohydrates are eaten should come from vegetables, whole grains, fruits, legumes and dairy products, over other sources that contain added fats, sugar or sodium. Likewise the evidence remains inconclusive for an ideal amount of total fat intake. Fat quality (eating monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats and avoiding trans fats and saturated fats) appears to be more important than quantity, the authors note. Although individuals working to manage their weight should still eat even good fats in moderation.

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ABOUT THE GUIDELINES

The American Diabetes Association's new nutritional guidelines state:

- Adults diagnosed with diabetes should eat a variety of nutrient-dense foods in appropriate portion sizes as part of an eating plan that takes into account individual preferences, culture, religious beliefs, traditions and metabolic goals.
- People with diabetes should limit or avoid intake of sugar sweetened beverages (from any caloric sweetener including high fructose corn syrup and sucrose) to reduce risk for weight gain and worsening of cardiovascular risk profile.
- The recommendation for the general population to reduce sodium to less than 2300 mg per day is also appropriate for people with diabetes, with additional reductions individualized for those who have high blood pressure.
- People with diabetes do not benefit from use of omega-3 EPA/DHA supplements for the prevention or treatment of cardiovascular disease. The recommendation for the general public, to eat fatty fish at least 2 times (2 servings) per week is also appropriate for people with diabetes.
- There is no clear evidence of benefit from vitamin or mineral supplements for people with diabetes who do not have underlying vitamin or mineral deficiencies. Nor is there evidence to support the use of cinnamon or other herbs or supplements for the treatment of diabetes.

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Walk in the shoes of someone with Type 1 diabetes

Throughout the month of November, JDRF invites people to step into the shoes of someone with Type 1 diabetes (T1D) by participating in its T1D for a Day challenge, a free text message campaign presented by Lilly Diabetes.

By texting TID4ADay to 63566 any time now through Nov. 30, participants of T1D for a Day will be led through 24 hours of virtual T1D, gaining a deeper understanding of the constant vigilance required to manage this disease, which affects as many as 3 million Americans.

This year's challenge will be hosted by JDRF celebrity advocate and professional snowboarder Sean Bubny, who has lived with T1D for nine years. Text messages delivered from Bubny to participants over the course of a day will offer a close look into his life with T1D, as he explains in real-time the various activities of his day, how they affect his blood sugar, and the measures he must take to stay safe and healthy.

"Taking care of type 1 diabetes every day is hard work, but most people don’t realize how hard," Bubny said. "By taking the challenge, you will experience for one day what many people live with every day. You’ll learn how complicated life with Type 1 diabetes is and understand the urgent need for a cure."

Participation in T1D for a Day is free of charge. (You may receive up to 45 messages.) Message and data rates may apply. Text Stop to 63566 to unsubscribe. Text Help to 63566 for help. Mobile terms and conditions at www.protexting.com/TID4ADAY.html.

For more information, visit jdrf.org.

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TYPE 1 VS. TYPE 2

Type 1 diabetes, which was previously called insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus or juvenile-onset diabetes, develops when the body’s immune system destroys pancreatic beta cells, the only cells in the body that makes insulin. Type 1 diabetes accounts for about 5 percent of diabetes diagnoses.

Type 2 diabetes, which was previously called non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus or adult-onset diabetes, usually begins as insulin resistance. Risk factors for Type 2 diabetes include older age, obesity, history of diabetes, impaired glucose metabolism, physical inactivity and race/ethnicity. This form accounts for 95 to 99 percent of diagnosed diabetes cases.

The American Diabetes Association
How you can fight diabetes at church

The American Diabetes Association seeks participants for its "I Decide (ID) to Stop Diabetes" Day at Church Nov. 10. The "ID" Day is part of the association's Live Empowered program, which strives to increase awareness of the seriousness of diabetes within the African-American community.

Today, nearly 28 million Americans have diabetes and another 79 million people have pre-diabetes. If current trends continue, 1 in 3 Americans will have Type 2 diabetes by 2050; the number increases to 1 in 2 for communities of color.

Congregations are invited to heighten awareness about this disease. Across the country, more than 2,000 churches of various denominations will participate in "ID" Day. Locally, this event provides diabetes education to congregants, reaching more than 35,000 people each year. Here's how your church can help:

- Celebrate ID Day at church on Nov. 10 using the free educational materials provided by the American Diabetes Association.
- Host diabetes awareness activities leading up to or after ID Day at church. Such activities might include healthy meals and/or church work outs before or after church service.
- Add American Diabetes Month to your church calendar and invite congregants to visit diabetessmosaic.org to help the association build the true picture of diabetes.

Live Empowered comprises 5 different programs. In addition to ID Day, The Chicago office offers three other programs. They are:

- Project Power: Faith-based diabetes awareness workshops including topics such as: management, prevention and treatment (Power Over Diabetes), physical activity (Fit and Faithful), healthy eating (O Taste & See), heart disease and health risk (A Clean Heart) and youth and diabetes (Train Up A Child).
- Your Diabetes Total Wellness Adult Toolkit: Holistic approach to diabetes education
- Choose to Live: Women's health

Calling On Your Faith: The American Diabetes Association seeks participants for its "I Decide (ID) to Stop Diabetes" Day at Church Nov. 10. The "ID" Day is part of the Association's Live Empowered program, which strives to increase awareness of the seriousness of diabetes within the African-American community. [FILE PHOTO]

Researchers identify a possible treatment target for Type 2 diabetes

Earlier this year, researchers at the National Institutes of Health clarified in rodent and test tube experiments the role that inflammation plays in Type 2 diabetes, and revealed a possible molecular target for treating the disease.

The researchers say some natural messenger chemicals in the body are involved in an inflammatory chain that can kill cells in the pancreas, which produces insulin.

A report of the finding appeared online in Nature Medicine in August.

"This study is a significant milestone in an ongoing exploration of the endocannabinoid system's role in the metabolic complications of obesity," said Kenneth R. Warren, Ph.D., acting director of NIH's National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), which led the study.

Endocannabinoids are natural messengers in the body that help regulate many biological functions. They are chemically similar to the active compound in marijuana. Recent studies have tied endocannabinoids to the metabolic problems that lead to diabetes. Researchers also have recognized that inflammation appears to play an important role in the pathology of diabetes.

"The identities of the molecular and cellular actors in the inflammatory processes that underlie Type 2 diabetes have remained elusive," explained senior author and NIAAA scientific director George Kunos, M.D., Ph.D. "Our study connects endocannabinoids to an inflammatory cascade leading to the loss of beta cells in the pancreas, which is a hallmark of Type 2 diabetes."

Working with a strain of genetically obese rats that serve as a model for human Type 2 diabetes, Kunos and his colleagues used a combination of pharmacological and genetic tools to show that endocannabinoids trigger receptors on macrophages in the pancreas. Macrophages are immune system cells, present in all tissues that rid the body of cellular debris and pathogens.

The researchers demonstrated that endocannabinoid activation of macrophages in the pancreas leads to activation of a protein complex within macrophages called the Nlrp3 inflammasome. The inflammasome, in turn, releases molecules that cause the death of pancreatic beta cells and the progression of Type 2 diabetes in the rats.

"When we treated the rats with compounds that deplete macrophages or block all peripheral cannabinoid receptors, inflammasome activation and Type 2 diabetes progression was slowed," Kunos said.

The authors conclude that the findings point to a key role in Type 2 diabetes for endocannabinoid-induced inflammasome activation in macrophages, and identify cannabinoid receptors on macrophages as a new therapeutic target.

DIID YOU KNOW?

More than 312 million African-Americans have diabetes

1 in 4 African-American women over the age of 55 has diabetes

African-Americans experience higher rates of diabetes complications than any other population.

In 2003, African-Americans were 1.5 times more likely to be obese

It is estimated that approximately 1 in 2 African-American children born in 2000 will develop diabetes in their lifetime

The American Diabetes Association

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The American Diabetes Association

The American Diabetes Association
YOUR Local Worship Guide

SKOKIE

Central United Methodist Church
8237 Kenton, Ave., Skokie
(847) 673-1311
www.skokiecentralumc.org
Worship: Sundays at 10:30 AM

Devar Emet Messianic Synagogue
7800 Niles Ave., Skokie
847-674-9146
www.deveremet.org
Join us for Shabbat Services at 10am
"A Community of Jews who believe and teach
that Yeshua (Jesus) is the Promised Jewish Messiah"

Kol Emeth
Conservative Congregation
Rabbi Barry Schechter
5130 Touhy, Skokie
(1 block west of Eden's)
847-673-3370

SKOKIE

St. Timothy Campus
9000 Kildare Ave. Skokie
Sunday Worship
9 am: 시카고 선교교회
10:30 am: St. Timothy's Lutheran
Noon: Agape Life Outreach Center
www.sttimothySkokie.org

Congregation Bene Shalom
4436 O竹ton, Skokie (847) 677-3330
www.beneshalom.org • Interfaith Families Welcome
Rabbi Dr. Douglas Goidhamer
Asst. Rabbi Shan Chen, Soloist Charlene Brooks
All services voice and sign language
Check our website for service times

Evanshire Presbyterian Church
4555 Church Street
www.evanshirepresbyterian.com
Every Sunday at 11 AM

St. Peter's United Church of Christ
Oakton Street & Laramie Avenue
847-675-8166
www.stpeteruccskokie.org
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Sunday School 9AM
(Sept. thru May)
Rev. Richard Laron
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Living and Loving
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847-675-4117
www.ehnt.org
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Fri 8PM, Koleinu 7PM & Sat 9:30AM
Minyon Mon-Thurs 7PM;
Sat & Sun 5PM
Monthly Shabbat dinners at 6:30PM
Religious School Tues & Sat;
Rabbi Jeffrey Weill
Cantor Benjamin Warschawski
Rabbi Neil Brief, Emeritus

Beth Hillel Congregation B'nai Emunah
3220 Big Tree Lane, 847-256-1213
www.bhcbe.org
Kabbalat Shabbat Fridays 6:00 PM
Shabbat Service – Saturdays 9:15 AM
Jr. Congregation, Tot Shabbat,
Torah Time 10:30 AM
Followed by Kiddush
Daily Minyan AM and PM
Rabbi Annie Tucker
Cantor Pavel Royzman
Rabbi Michael Cohen, Ed. Dir.

Kehillat Shalom
An Egalitarian Conservative Congregation
Lay Led Shabbat Service, 9:45AM
8610 Niles Center Rd, Skokie
847-679-6513
www.kehillatshalom.org

W.M. Temple Church of God in Christ, Inc.
5151 Church St., Skokie, IL
(847) 966-1095
www.wmtemple.org
Pastor Cranford@gmail.com
Sunday Service: 11:30 AM
Sunday School: 10 AM
Bible Study: Wednesday, 7 PM
Intercessory Prayer:
Tuesday & Friday, 7 PM
Dr. Clarence Cranford, Jr., Pastor
Elizabeth W. Cranford, 1st Lady

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CHICAGO

Edison Park Lutheran Church
6626 N. Oliphant Ave., Chicago, IL
(Across park from Edison Park Metra)
773.631.9131, www.edisonparkchurch.com
Saturday Worship 4:30 p.m.,
Sunday Worship 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 am
Rev. Dr. Michael D. Sparby, Sr. Pastor
Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry
Matt Haider, Worship /Music
Michael Lyda, Children/Youth/Family

St. Luke's Evangelical Covenant Church
9233Shermer Rd., Morton Grove
Sunday Worship & Sunday School - 10 AM
http://www.stlukesecc.org/
Handicap Accessible
Rev. Isabel Hughes, Pastor

St. Luke's Evangelical Covenant Church
6626 N. Oliphant Ave., Chicago, IL
773.631.9131, www.edisonparkchurch.com
Saturday Worship 4:30 p.m.,
Sunday Worship 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 am
Rev. Dr. Michael D. Sparby, Sr. Pastor
Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry
Matt Haider, Worship /Music
Michael Lyda, Children/Youth/Family

Morton Grove Community Church
Presbyterian Church (USA)
8944 Austin Avenue
(Lake and Austin)
Morton Grove, IL
(947) 965-2982
www.mgcppresbyterian.org
Sunday Worship 10 AM
Fellowship 11 AM
Rev. Lily Dominski
Handicapped Accessible
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(McCormick Congregational
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for your forgiveness
Welcoming traditional worship
Sanctuary Handicap accessible
Sunday Worship at 9:30
Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45
Rev. Matthew Joseph Gunia, Pastor
“For whenever our heart condemns us,
God is greater than our heart....”
-1 John 3:20

Park Ridge

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for every kind of family.
Single? Partnered?
Spouse and kids?
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near Devon & Harlem
Communion every Sunday, 9:30
stalbanschicago.org

Niles

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stalbanschicago.org

To showcase your House of Worship here
call 630-978-8277 or Worship@Pioneerlocal.com
**Death Notices**

**Afton, David N.**
86, formerly of Evanston, passed away peacefully October 28, 2013.

A retired psychotherapist, David was a proud Sigma Tau Delta who earned his B.S. in Math from the University of Illinois and pursued his Psy.D. from Illinois School of Professional Psychology.

Cherished husband of the late Muriel Lome Afton; loving father of Thomas Afton of Paris, France and Joan Afton of Los Angeles; beloved cousin, friend, and neighbor of many.

Preceded in death by parents, Norbert Louis Afton and Esther Kaufman Afton, and brother, Leonard (the late Helen) Afton.

Services have been held.

Memorial contributions may be made to Sante D'Or Animal Rescue and Adoption Center, http://www.santedor.org/donate.


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**Bates, Donald H.**

Was born September 28, 1926 in Oak Park, Illinois. His life ended on October 6, 2013 in Park Ridge's Advocate Lutheran General Hospital.

His achievements include identifying the rock structure of the moon and in assisting with the development of Biomedical Engineering groups at 8 hospitals in the Chicago area.

His parents, Bertha and Joe, and sons, Nathan and Aaron preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife, Mary Alice (Raitor); brothers, Wayne (Carol and family) and Vincent, and grandson, A.J. and his mother, Nina.

Memorial services will be held at SS Faith, Hope and Charity in Winnetka, IL at 11:00 am on November 9, 2013.


---

**Roth, Lorraine M.**

Age 90, of Park Ridge, passed away on November 1, 2013, All Saints Day. Beloved wife of 67 years to Randall R. Roth; dear mother of Gale (Randy) Wolter, Dane (Cindy) Roth, and Erik (Susan) Roth; loving grandmother of Lindsay, Loren (Mike) McEllin, Sea, Joe, Erika, Brandon and Collette; great-grandmother of Daniel McEllin.

A private family memorial service will be held at a future date. Funeral arrangements entrusted to RYAN-PARKE FUNERAL HOME, http://www.ryanparke.com/.

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### 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 memoriam or card of thanks, is Monday at 5:00 pm. Photos must be submitted by Monday at 2:00 pm.
- 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.

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Michael Carbonara Jr.
Licensed Funeral Directors

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Chapels generally available near your home

Email: deathnotices@pioneerlocal.com

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### Remembrance: Love's Greatest Gift

Place a Card of Thanks or an In-Memoriam

Include a photo of your loved one

---

**Call:**
547-998-3400 (opt 6)

**Email:**
deathnotices@pioneerlocal.com

---

**Sign the Guest Book at pioneerlocal.com**
 Grave and garden crypt artificial decorations are available through the Catholic Cemeteries. Cash and Carry orders can be picked up at the cemetery office. Placed decoration orders will be completed after November 1st. To place an order, complete the order form and mail it with your check or money order made payable to Catholic Cemeteries.

CASH & CARRY $25.00
PLACED $31.00

TYPE AA - GARDEN CRYPT
POTTED POINSETTIA
CASH & CARRY $15.00
PLACED $20.00

Catholic Cemeteries
708-449-6100
www.CatholicCemeteriesChicago.org
CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
1400 SOUTH WOLF ROAD
HILLSIDE, IL 60162-2197
ATTN: FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS
## DEALER DIRECTORY

Scan a QR Code to see that dealers entire vehicle inventory.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BMW</th>
<th>KIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill Jacobs BMW</td>
<td>Southlake KIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2495 Aurora Ave.</td>
<td>4191 E. Lincoln Highway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naperville, IL 60540</td>
<td>Merrillville, IN 46410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>855-256-1078</td>
<td>855-282-6798</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHEVROLET</th>
<th>LAND ROVER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Webb Chevrolet</td>
<td>Hill-Jacobs Land Rover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9440 S. Cicero Ave.</td>
<td>300 E. Ogden Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Lawn, IL 60453</td>
<td>Hinsdale, IL 60521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>855-857-4041</td>
<td>855-680-5894</td>
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<tr>
<th>ChrySlEr</th>
<th>MITSUBISHI</th>
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<tr>
<td>Carro Chevy</td>
<td>Max Madsen Aurora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6401 W. Roosevelt Road</td>
<td>3990 Ogden Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Park, IL 60130</td>
<td>Aurora, IL 60504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>888-450-9865</td>
<td>855-289-1448</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>FORD</th>
<th>SUBARU</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art Hill Ford</td>
<td>Bill Jacobs Subaru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>901 W. Lincoln Highway</td>
<td>2525 W. Jefferson St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merrillville, IN 46410</td>
<td>Joliet, IL 60435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>855-247-9401</td>
<td>855-250-4119</td>
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<th>INDEPENDENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Frankie's Auto Sales</td>
<td>Lombard Toyota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>629 Joliet St.</td>
<td>725 West Roosevelt Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dyer, IN 46311</td>
<td>Lombard, IL 60408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>888-684-3385</td>
<td>877-870-3816</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>VOLKSWAGEN</th>
<th>VOLKSWAGEN</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Jacobs Volkswagen</td>
<td>2211 Aurora Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naperville, IL 60540</td>
<td>855-885-3348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>855-685-3348</td>
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</tbody>
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## CAR STORY

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

**Tom Bryson's 1974 AMX Javelin**

By Joshua Beckman - joshua.beckman@wrapports.com

Only 250 or so AMX Javelins were manufactured in 1974, and Tom Bryson of Countryside, IL has one of them.

At the age of 16, Bryson purchased the car in 1975 from the original owner, driving it all throughout his years of high school and college and through 10 years of working life before he left it to sit in his garage for the next 20 years.

Bryson has worked as a Lincoln-Mercury mechanic for over 20 years, and decided two years ago to begin restoration of his nearly 40-year-old Javelin. He dismantled and reassembled the engine, transmission, and brakes. Bryson's brother works at an auto body shop, and helped him remove every panel for stripping, three different types and layers of primer and a factory-stock painting to rejuvenate the whole body. "It would have cost a fortune to restore it the way I have," says Bryson, "but my skills and my brother helped to cut the costs significantly. I even added a dual exhaust, to give it that nice muscle noise."

Bryson doesn't drive the Javelin very much since the restoration. "I restore it and I'm afraid to take it out - it took me over two years to restore it to this condition. It's sitting pretty where it is right now - no plans for any more changes or any real adventures."

Though he doesn't expect to part with his newfound Javelin, "I got the right offer, I would consider selling it," Bryson says. "I think people would be willing to pay a good deal for it now."

---

**ADVERTISE WITH US** Contact Sun-Times Media Automotive Advertising Director Terry Boyle to find out how. Reach him at tboyle@suntimes.com or 312-259-4111.
Residents of Niles opted to buy domestic vehicles 35 percent of time in July. Sales of domestic vehicles totaled 111 of the overall 315 auto sales to residents in the month.

Ford sales accounted for 45 of the 111 total domestic vehicle sales to Niles residents. A total of 27 used Ford vehicles and 18 new Ford vehicles made up the 45 overall Ford sales in the month.

Residents of Niles went with imports 65 percent of time in July, as 204 of the overall 315 auto sales in the month came from this category. Toyota was the most popular import purchased in the month, accounting for 50 of the total 204 import sales. A total of 31 pre-owned vehicles and 19 new vehicles comprise the overall total of 50 Toyota purchases in July.

Toyota led the way in used import sales with a total of 31 sales. Nissan (14) and Honda (12) followed in used import sales.

Popular imports bought new by Niles residents included Toyota, with a total of 19 sales, followed by Nissan (18) and Hyundai (15).

On the flip side, Ford was first in used domestic sales, with a total of 27 sales, while Chevrolet (15) and Dodge (four) followed. In addition, popular domestic brands bought new in the month included Ford, with a total of 18 sales, followed by Chevrolet (nine) and Jeep (six).

Golf Mill Ford sold more domestic vehicles to residents of Niles than any other car dealership in the month of July. Other popular dealers of domestic cars and trucks to Niles residents in the month included Sherman Dodge and Bredemann Chevrolet.

In the category of import sales, Star Nissan led the way in July, followed by Bredemann Toyota and O'Hare Hyundai.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Make/Model</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Contact Info</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cadillac 2013 ATS</td>
<td>Bluetooth, Premium Sound, OnStar, Excellent</td>
<td>$24,990 855-662-3099</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyota 2006 RAV4 Sport</td>
<td>Mega Low Mile Sunroof, One Owner, Perfect Errand Runner</td>
<td>$13,995 855-662-3099</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chevrolet 2007 Tahoe LTZ 4WD</td>
<td>Low Miles, Heated Leather, 3rd Row &amp; Much More!</td>
<td>$21,995 855-662-3099</td>
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<tr>
<td>GMC 2011 Terrain SLE</td>
<td>Back Up Camera, Satellite Ready, Great MPG's</td>
<td>$17,990 855-662-3099</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mercedes-Benz 2005 SL-Class 5.0L</td>
<td>Awesome Roadster, Navigation, Bose Audio, Heated Leather</td>
<td>$29,995 855-662-3099</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lexus 2007 RX350 AWD</td>
<td>Low Miles, Sunroof, Premium Sound, Very Sharp!</td>
<td>$21,995 855-662-3099</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toyota 2008 Malibu Hybrid</td>
<td>Big Performance &amp; Great Gas Mileage, Premium Audio</td>
<td>$10,995 855-662-3099</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toyota 2007 Camry LE</td>
<td>Low Miles, CD/Mp3, Great MPG's! This Won't Last!</td>
<td>$13,495 855-662-3099</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honda 2012 CR-V</td>
<td>Bluetooth, CD, Sunroof, Perfect Save Big From New!</td>
<td>$34,995 866-960-7980</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ford 2005 Mustang Premium</td>
<td>Super Low Mile CD Changer, Automatic, Turn Heads In This Yellow Beauty!</td>
<td>$11,995 855-662-3099</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toyota 2012 Corolla S</td>
<td>Sporty Trim, Alloys, Great On Gas! Perfect!</td>
<td>$16,995 855-662-3099</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nissan 2011 Murano LE AWD</td>
<td>Sunroof, Heated Mirrors, Premium Audio, One Owner, Family Ready</td>
<td>$27,875 855-662-3099</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volkswagen 2004 Passat Wagon GLX</td>
<td>Sunroof, Back Up Camera &amp; Much More! Must Seal</td>
<td>$27,875 855-662-3099</td>
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</table>
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Niles North alumnus Aron Sebhat took third place at the CCIW Championships as part of the North Central College men's cross country team Nov. 2.

**COLLEGE NOTES**

Sebhat, North Central continue dominant cross country run

**BY NICK BULLOCK**

Niles North alumnus Aron Sebhat, a sophomore on the North Central College men's cross country team, took third place at the College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin Championships Nov. 2 at St. James Farm in Warrenville. The Skokie native's third-place finish helped lead his team to its 40th straight CCIW win.

Sebhat finished with a time of 24 minutes, 59.29 seconds. North Central's seven-man team took the top seven spots in the competition.

Sebhat and his teammates have been the No. 1-ranked NCAA Division III program for eight straight weeks and counting. The team's next challenge will come at the NCAA Division III Midwest Regional Championships Nov. 16 at the Saukie Golf Course in Rock Island. North Central will compete for its sixth straight regional title.

Lake Zurich alumna Layne Self, a middle blocker for the Rhode Island women's volleyball team, was recently named Atlantic 10 Defensive Player of the Week. The freshman recorded 15 blocks and three digs in three matches. She also contributed offensively with 32 kills and three aces.

Self, a Hawthorn Woods native, leads Rhode Island in blocks (105) by a wide margin while helping the team to a 12-13 start. She also has 12 service aces, 119 digs and 24 blocks on the season.

Hinsdale Central alumnus Arash Darbandi, a senior on the Illinois-Chicago men's cross country team, placed second on his team and 69th overall at the ISU Pre-National Invitational Oct. 19 in Terre Haute, Ind. Darbandi's time of 26:35:30 helped his team secure a 19th-place finish. It was the Oak Brook native's second best time of the season, behind only his 26:30:06 finish at the Illinois Intercollegiate Championships to start the season.

Lake Zurich graduate Layne Self (right) and Libertyville alumna Catie Steffen prepare for a point during a match with the Rhode Island women's volleyball team Sept. 13. (Photo by Michael Scull/Rhode Island Athletics)

Glenbrook North alumna Ashlyn Mathy, a sophomore and captain of the Oakton Community College women's cross country team, recently placed 15th out of 37 competitors in the Illinois Skyway Collegiate Conference meet hosted by Moraine Valley Community College Oct. 26. Mathy's performance in the 5K race helped lead her team to a fifth-place finish.

Have a suggestion for the College Roundup? Email Nick Bullock at bullockpioneerpress@gmail.com.
**Monticello’s late surge helps Ramblers make state**

New Trier’s Molly Schmidt showcases mental toughness during races by sticking with her older sister

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

The Class 3A Lake Park Sectional was the first time all season that the Loyola girls cross country team had its five best runners compete in the same race.

Junior Claire Monticello made her season debut at the state-qualifier, completing the course in 19 minutes, 33.2 seconds to finish 68th overall. She was Loyola’s fifth-fastest runner — each team’s five fastest runners count toward its score — and in the final 10 meters she was truly spectacular.

Monticello passed Young sophomore Zoe Kane-Priessi (19:33.6, 70th overall) and St. Ignatius freshman Maddie Kyhi (19:33.4, 69th) right before she crossed the finish line. The Ramblers wound up earning the sectional’s fifth and final state berth by just one point — 205-206 — over sixth-place St. Ignatius.

“Our fifth, and St. Ignatius’ fifth, they actually ended up with the same finishing time except for 0.23 of a second,” Loyola coach Chris-Jon Simon said. “That was really how we made it (downstate).”

Monticello had been missing from Loyola’s lineup all season because she strained her lower back early in the fall, Simon said, and her back would regularly spasm when she ran in practice.

As a result, Monticello was not able to train with her teammates for the majority of the season. She used alternative methods — bike workouts, pool workouts and workouts on elliptical machines — to maintain her fitness in preparation for her return.

The Class 3A state meet is scheduled for Saturday at Detweiller Park in Peoria.

**NEW TRIER**

New Trier sophomore Kelli Schmidt and freshman Molly Schmidt finished 18th and 19th, respectively, at the Lake Park Sectional, with times that were only 07 seconds apart.

The Schmidt sisters’ times have been within a second or two of each other all season, New Trier girls cross country coach John Burnside said. Burnside said Molly Schmidt has been able to keep up with her older sister largely because of her mental toughness during races.

“Molly really has a courageous nature about her,” Burnside said. “She’s willing to stick with Kelli and the rest of these older kids, even when her body is hurting. ... I think the big thing that can happen in the middle of the race, too, is a lot of self-doubt.

“When you feel that pain and you’re still not near the end, there’s really the chance to just give up. And she’s just never done it. She’s never let fear dictate her race and, for a young runner, that’s really something that’s very amazing.”

The Schmidts, along with the rest of the Trevians’ varsity squad, advanced to the Class 3A state meet by finishing second (76 points) at the Lake Park Sectional.

New Trier junior Mimi Smith (16:55.0) finished second overall at the sectional, and freshman Cara Keleher (18:05.9) finished 15th.

New Trier senior Kaitlin Frei (18:14.9) rounded out the team’s top five by finishing 22nd.

**NORTHRIDGE MAKES STATE**

The Knights (193 points) finished third at Saturday’s Class IA Lisle Sectional, earning a spot at the boys cross country state meet Saturday.

Northridge’s top runner was sophomore Nathan Swanson, who came in ninth (17:40).

**EVANSTON AND NILES WEST**

Niles West junior Christine Mujica (18:00.1) finished 13th at the sectional, and Evanston senior Kyla Steman (18:12.5) took 20th overall.

Both Mujica and Steman qualified for state as individuals, and Saturday afternoon’s Class 3A state meet will be the first for both runners.

**REGINA**

Panthers junior Katie McDonough advanced to Saturday’s Class 2A state meet in Peoria by placing 24th at the U-High Sectional with a time of 20:44.
Three seniors played a key role in shutting down opposing quarterbacks, wide receivers

BY JONAH ROSENBLUM
For Sun-Times Media, @jonahlrosenblum

PARK RIDGE — Maine South’s Brian Collis threw to open receivers throughout Saturday’s Class 8A first-round playoff game against Niles West. He missed a few of them, but five of his 18 pass attempts went for 10-plus yards.

Given how Niles West thrived off its secondary all season, the Wolves’ 56-20 defeat ended their season in unexpected form.

“They ran everything that we were prepared for in the early drives, but they added new plays, new crossing routes, which really threw us off,” senior Andrew Mihulet said. “They beat us deep a couple of times. It was unfortunate. It doesn’t happen often. This whole season, we haven’t let (up) deep balls.”

Since Niles West gave up an 8A-record 69 points in its first-round loss to Palatine in 2012, the secondary unit had been dedicated to achieving something different.

“That’s where it all started,” Mihulet said.

Mihulet said they watched a lot of film, looking for tendencies. Fellow senior Nick Johnson credited the work of coach Scott Baum and defensive backs coach Matt Hohs.

“We really sat down and thought about the mental aspect of playing defensive back,” Johnson said. “Give credit to the coaches. They sat us down as soon as the season was over last year. We went over things every day all the way up to (when) this season started.”

For Baum, it was a special unit to work with.

“It was easy,” Baum said. “It’s like being a teacher. When you have good students, it’s easy to teach. When you have a good group of players, it’s easy to coach.”

Baum said the team began to remind him of some of the secondaries he worked with as a defensive backs coach and defensive coordinator at Loyola in the early 1990s.

“You always have one or two defensive backs, but it’s really when you have three or four, even five, kids that stand out, this is one of those groups,” Baum said.

Mihulet led the way, recording his 12th interception in heavy traffic Saturday. He said afterward that he had dropped back to secure the pick after initially misreading the play.

“Andrew had a hell of a season,” Johnson said. “He was like a grown man out there running around. He’s no doubt the best cover corner in our conference easily, maybe even in Illinois. The things he does are ridiculous.”

Mihulet, a former quarterback who was converted to wide receiver/defensive back, excelled in ways that Baum never could have expected.

“We knew he could play defense … but I don’t know if we felt he’d become the defensive player that he did,” Baum said.

Mihulet was a relative newcomer to the unit, given that Johnson, whom Baum proclaimed “the quarterback of our defense,” and senior Garrett Iverson both joined the secondary as sophomores.

“I don’t know if ‘father figure’ or ‘the warrior’ would be a great term to use for (Iverson), but he brings a nice demeanor to the game,” Baum said. “He’s the guy who kind of explains things and gets them fired up. He was the maturity factor out there.”

The Niles West defensive backs worked as neatly as an assembly line.

“(Garrett) made our calls, our straight calls, and got people in the right position, and then Nick kind of took over and saw what the offense was doing,” Baum said. “And Andrew would go make plays.”

Christian Cervantes, Jeremy Pignato and the rest of the returning Wolves secondary will try to replicate that cohesion next season.

“They set a high standard, and there are kids that want to be like those guys next year,” Baum said.

“They want to play like Nick Johnson, Garrett Iverson and Andrew Mihulet. Their legacy will be left behind.”

GAME RECAP
Maine South 56
Niles West 20

THE SKINNY
The fifth-seeded Maine South football team pulled away late in the first half Saturday, ultimately defeating No. 12 Niles West 56-20 in the opening round of the Class 8A playoffs in Park Ridge. The Wolves were denied their first playoff win since 1991 and fell to 0-6 all-time in 8A first-round games.

TURNING POINT
The Wolves drew within a score with 3:21 remaining in the first half when junior quarterback Tommy Galanopoulos found senior wide receiver Andrew Mihulet for a 35-yard touchdown. The Hawks needed just two plays to respond.

First, senior running back Clay Burdelik picked up 8 yards and then junior running back Tommy Bazarek took a screen pass 59 yards down the left sideline into the end zone. Two minutes and 15 seconds later, Hawks sophomore quarterback Brian Collis tossed a perfect cross-field lob to Bazarek to take a 28-7 lead into the intermission.

THE STAR
Burdelik — who made his return from a separated left shoulder — finished with 120 yards on 15 carries.

BY THE NUMBERS
The Wolves converted on three of their first four third-down tries, but went one for their final eight, absorbing three sacks. One came on a third-and-eight at the Maine South 26, thus knocking Niles West out of field-goal range for sure.
More to Dons than the running game

Cravens, Dietz and Simon have each caught at least 17 passes this season

BY MATT HARNESS
mharness@pioneerlocal.com, @harnesspreps

PALATINE — Ryan Greene and Pat Cravens have known each other since grade school.

They once were opponents in the North West Catholic Conference in Chicago, but now they are teammates on the Notre Dame football team, which is looking to get to the quarterfinals of the state playoffs for the second season in a row. The Dons play host to top-seeded Loyola at 6 p.m. Saturday in the second round.

It was easy to see the strong connection between Greene and Cravens on Friday during the Dons' 28-14 win over Fremd in the first round of the Class 8A playoffs.

Cravens caught four passes for 70 yards, including a 24-yard touchdown that secured the victory.

"I had a couple of options," Greene said of the scoring play in the third quarter that gave Notre Dame a 21-7 lead. "I was seeing where I had the numbers and the advantage. Once I saw the linebacker crashing run, I got the ball out to Pat. Pat is a great athlete, and he did the rest."

While senior running back Chris James is the star of Notre Dame's offense — he rushed for 243 yards against Fremd — Cravens and fellow senior receivers Dan Dietz and Tom Simon enable the Dons (7-3) to be multi-dimensional. And that's something coach Mike Hennessey said he knew would be important to the team's success this season.

"There's no question Chris is going to get the ball a lot," Hennessey said. "But our offense had to be more diversified this year. We are getting the ball in a good number of hands."

Cravens comes into the game against Loyola with 21 catches for 424 yards and five touchdowns. Simon has 17 receptions.

Notre Dame quarterback Ryan Greene looks to throw a shovel pass while under pressure during Friday's game at Fremd in the first round of the Class 8A playoffs. Greene and Notre Dame senior receivers Pat Cravens, Dan Dietz and Tom Simon bring balance to the Notre Dame offense.

Notre Dame quarterback Ryan Greene looks to throw a shovel pass while under pressure during Friday's game at Fremd in the first round of the Class 8A playoffs. Greene and Notre Dame senior receivers Pat Cravens, Dan Dietz and Tom Simon bring balance to the Notre Dame offense.

Although Dietz didn't score Saturday, his 32-yard catch on third-and-three on the first play of the fourth quarter set up the Dons for their fourth touchdown of the game.

"I've got guys I can throw to," said Greene, who's completed 56 percent of his passes for 1,566 yards and 14 touchdowns. "They are all good athletes, and they understand defenses and know where the soft spots are."
The start of the 2013 season made it more clear than ever that the NFL has become a passing league. In week one, a record six quarterbacks threw for more than 350 yards, and three of those surpassed 400. In the entire decade of the 1970s, only five QBs passed for more than 400 yards in one game. Moreover, to start 2013, all teams combined rushed for the fewest yards in week one of any season since the league expanded to 32 teams in 2002 – 2,964 total yards, an average of less than 93 yards per team.

It paid to lose in the 2013 major league baseball season—at least for the Houston Astros, the team with the worst record but the highest profit. Exploding revenues from television helped explain the revenue side of the ledger. But on the expense side, an entire team payroll of less than $13 million did the trick. That was less than what 64 individual players on other teams made in 2013. The Astros were projected to have an operating income of almost $100 million for 2013.

Who started the 3-4 defense in football—three down linemen and four linebackers? It’s been used with varying degrees of popularity in the NFL since the early 1980s, but like many innovations in football, it actually began in college. Legendary Oklahoma coach Bud Wilkinson is credited with devising the defensive scheme, first using it in 1950, when he won his first national championship with the Sooners. Wilkinson led Oklahoma to back-to-back national titles in 1955 and ’56, in the middle of the longest winning streak in college football history – 47 straight between 1953 and 1957.
Moving on

Notre Dame beats Fremd, plays host to top-ranked Loyola next

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