Devastation's local impact
Massive, deadly typhoon in Philippines worries local residents | PAGE 6
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THIS WEEK

COMMUNITY
On board for Ventra
Riders may be able to start using Ventra cards and credit cards on Metra trains starting next summer, now
that the agency unveiled a detailed timeline for the project. Find out how the new
payment program might work for the rail
gency. Page II

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Filipinos worry about massive typhoon’s devastation back home

BY NATASHA WASINSKI
For Sun-Times Media | @natwaz

Since a heavy-hitting storm slammed into the Philippines last weekend, Chicago-area Filipinos remain in the dark about the status of loved ones overseas.

Skokie resident Paul “Lito” Guimary had tried phoning his cousin, who operates an evangelical church in Cebu City, last Thursday.

By Tuesday, there was still no answer, but Guimary wasn’t about to lose hope.

“My cousin has not responded, but he may be busy,” he said. “Or, the phone is not with him.”

One of the most powerful tropical cyclones ever recorded, Super Typhoon Haiyan (known in the Philippines as Yolanda) carried nearly 200 mile-per-hour winds.

The death toll is expected to be in the thousands.

Guimary, pastor of For Christ Our Saviour Church, said his predominantly-Filipino congregation is also concerned about family in the Pacific.

One parishioner relayed to Guimary that her parents “lost their home’s roof, but not their lives.” Another has a relative who is missing in the province Leyte, which had been nearly flattened by the storm.

“There’s nothing in [the provincial city] Tacloban now,” Guimary said. “My fear is that he’s dead, that he’s gone.”

Ed Ramos, Morton Grove’s freshman village clerk and the second Filipino ever to hold office in the village, said on Friday that he was able to make brief contact with his relatives abroad.

“It [the phone connection] was off and on, which is expected at this time,” he said.

Ramos said Filipino families in Morton Grove and the surrounding communities are staying updated via a Filipino cable news program.

“Most are subscribers and most are in tune,” he said.

Reports from the ground and images of the devastation have been haunting.

“People were saying the survivors were walking like zombies,” Guimary said. “There was no food or water.”

Among the shortage of supplies: body bags. The spreading of disease would only exacerbate problems, Guimary said.

“Something like this, it just breaks my heart,” he said. “It’s too much to even process.”

Niles resident Rod Ranola, who grew up in the Philippines, recalled how Typhoon Patsy (also known as Typhoon Yolanda) rocked his home country in 1970.

“I remember my cousins were all crying,” he said. “I was feeling the house move and shake.”

Though recorded as one of the country’s deadliest tropical storms, Typhoon Patsy “is nothing compared to Yolanda,” said Ranola, a deacon at St. Isaac Jogues Parish in Niles.

Alpha Nicolasin, of the monthly publication Filipino American Community Builder, noted the country had barely begun recovering from an earthquake from four weeks ago.

“They are still experiencing aftershocks up to now, and some of them are living in tents after their houses were destroyed by the quake,” he said.

The typhoon arrived on the heels of a magnitude 7.1 earthquake that left hundreds dead. Ramos called the natural disasters a “double-whammy.”

He said families previously displaced are likely to be uprooted once again, as poorer populations are often encouraged to find more stable shelter in advance of a storm.

“They will lose their property, and what little they have, but it will maybe spare their lives,” Ramos said. “I’m sorry to say some of them are used to it.”

Ranola agreed that big storms are nothing uncommon in the Southeast Asian country. He said his sister’s home in Cavite has been repeatedly damaged by the weather.

“The Philippines have always struggled,” he said. “We’re used to it, but not of this magnitude. ... It’s really a blow to the spirits.”

Guimary said the frequency of storms — nearly two-dozen typhoons hit the country’s islands annually — cause some not to bother with repairs to their homes.

“You can only do so much because of the economic situation,” he said.

If there’s anything that’s certain in the Philippines today, it’s the road to recovery will be long and slow.

“It’s devastating,” Ramos said.

“In a poor country like that, it takes a while to recover.”

“It will take years,” predicted Guimary.

For Christ Our Saviour Church, which relocated last month from Niles to Chicago, has started collecting funds to help in the relief. The Filipino American Community Builder is also putting together a fundraiser.

Ranola noted Catholic agencies locally are also mobilizing campaigns to help. In situations like this, he said, positive thoughts are equally important.

“Continued prayers, [that’s what] we’re asking for,” he said. “And for the rains to stop. I hope this will be the last storm we have.”

Either way, Ranola has faith people back in the Philippines will find calm after the storm.

“We’re very resilient people,” he said.
Famed pizza joint Burt’s Place is set to reopen Thursday

BY RICK KAMBIC
rkambic@pioneerlocal.com | @rckkambic

Legendary pizza-maker Burt Katz is reopening his famed Burt’s Place restaurant at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 14.

The doors have been closed for three months while Katz was hospitalized for a mysterious illness that caused multiple organs to fail. Doctors eventually found unknown toxins in Katz’s blood.

After weeks of blood treatments, surgery and physical therapy, the 76-year-old says he’s ready to start the oven again.

"This is still a trial run for me, but I’m determined," Katz said. “Once we're open to the public, seeing all the smiles and happy customers will give me a good boost."

As the insistence of his doctor and wife Sharon, Katz can only work evening hours (4:30 to 10 p.m.) for the first few weeks. He encourages customers to call ahead to make sure the restaurant is open, and so he can tell them to take the train instead of paying cab fares.

Word of Katz’s reopening began to spread just prior the Nov. 11 Morton Grove Village Board meeting, after Katz stopped by to invite Mayor Dan DiMaria to a private VIP opening earlier in the week, which will also include long-time customers.

DiMaria later told the meeting’s audience and cable TV viewers of Katz’s Nov. 14 public reopening.

Momentum built throughout the last two weeks, as Katz made appearances at three village events and was also spotted outside the restaurant numerous times.

Katz prides himself in being a one-man operation.

The well-traveled pizza-maker first gained fame when he opened The Inferno in Evanston and later opened Gulliver’s in Chicago’s Rogers Park.

Katz took a “hiatus” to experiment in a corporate oil company, but said the higher pay wasn’t worth the restrictive working conditions. He hasn’t shaved his beard since he quit his corporate job on March 12, 1971 and decided to open Pequod’s in Morton Grove.

After growing bored of Pequod’s, Katz sold it and opened Burt’s Place down the street in 1989.
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Riders may be able to start using Ventra cards and credit cards on Metra trains starting next summer if everything goes according to the commuter rail agency's plans.

While the commuter train agency's Board of Directors has discussed the possibility before, the Oct. 18 meeting marked the first time it unveiled a detailed timeline for the project.

While many aspects of the plan are still murky, the agency is determined to press ahead. Under state law, the CTA, Metra and Pace must adapt a shared fare system by the beginning of 2015.

In June 2011, Gov. Pat Quinn signed a state law that mandated something RTA member agencies never had before — a unified fare system. The act required Metra, CTA and Pace to develop a fare card that would work on all buses and trains under their jurisdiction. It also required the three agencies to find a way to allow customers to use credit and debit cards to pay their fares. Finally, the law required them to develop transfers that would allow riders to transfer between CTA, Pace and Metra.

CTA and Pace ultimately decided to use Ventra cards to comply with the mandate. But Metra hesitated, due in large part to differences in the way they collect money from passengers. Unlike CTA and Pace, which have trip-based fares, Metra fares are zone-based, with ticket prices increasing the longer one travels. And unlike 'L' train riders, Metra riders can get on board without going through turnstiles and buy their tickets on the train.

It wasn't until this August that Metra decided to adapt Ventra cards. And it wasn't until October that it took the first step toward incorporating Ventra cards into its fare system, writing a letter to the CTA saying they'd like to join.

According to Metra spokesman Mike Gillis, the letter sets the groundwork toward fare integration.

"We sent out a letter agreeing that we're going to work with them to integrate Ventra into the fare system on Metra," he said. "As part of that, we have to figure out how to make the system work for Metra, CTA and Pace alike."

Gillis said that, technically speaking, Ventra cards are already partially compatible with Metra fare system.

"We can take Ventra cards at ticket booths if Ventra users activated their [card's] debit card function," he said.

The biggest challenge, Gillis said, is finding a way for conductors to scan Ventra cards and credit cards. At the moment, Metra is still examining its options.

There is also the matter of transfers. Gillis said that the Metra doesn't plan to change inner-system transfers, but it will work with CTA and Pace to allow people to transfer between the three systems.

"We want riders to be able to take a Pace bus to a Metra station and transfer, or to get off downtown and transfer to a CTA bus," said Gillis.

But actually making it happen will require a few steps. According to the timeline unveiled at the board meeting, Metra will be developing intergovernmental agreements with CTA and Pace over the next few months, adopting them by February 2014. It will then spend the next few months putting rules, procedures and infrastructure for Ventra cards processing in place.

Metra will launch a pilot program in August 2014. Ventra will be accepted on three lines by the end of 2014, and over the entire system by the end of the first quarter of 2015.

According to Gillis, Metra hasn't yet decided which line will be used for the pilot program — and which lines will start accepting Ventra first.

As Gillis himself readily admitted, the schedule was "aggressive."

"I don't know the answer to that," he said. "We are committed to meeting the deadline."

However Ventra implementation may work out, Metra doesn't currently plan to do away with its current tickets and passes.

"We will still be using paper tickets and paper passes," said Gillis. "Ventra would just be another option."
Man loses $5,000 in telephone scam, police say

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
johnson@puoneerlocal.com I @Jen_Pioneer

A Niles man thought he was paying unpaid income taxes when he transferred nearly $5,000 to a caller claiming to be with the Internal Revenue Service.

But Niles police say he was the victim of a phone scam — one that has been attempted on other residents in the area and across the country.

According to police, the 61-year-old victim received a phone call on Nov. 5 from a man who told him he owed $4,970 in back taxes to the IRS and needed to pay up that very day. The caller instructed the man to buy prepaid debit cards and then call him back with the card verification codes so the money could be transferred, police said.

The victim reportedly bought five debit cards from an unnamed store on Golf Road and then completed the process of transferring the cash.

About two hours later, the man told police he received a second call from the same phone number; this time from a caller who claimed the victim owed another $2,000 in taxes and if it wasn't paid, he would be deported.

Suspicious, the man told the caller he did not have the funds and the caller hung up, police said. After attempting to call the number numerous times and receiving no answer, the victim came to the Niles Police Department to file a report.

The incident is similar to a string of local scams reported by the Cook County Sheriff's Police in May. Last spring, several residents of unincorporated Maine Township contacted Sheriff's Police saying they were threatened with arrest or deportation if they failed to pay a supposed debt. The callers had identified themselves as representatives of the IRS or a collection agency and had instructed the victim to purchase prepaid debit cards and then provide the account numbers so the funds could be transferred.

In this scam, police reported that the call spoke to the victims, all of Indian descent, in Hindi, Gujarati and possibly other languages from the Indian subcontinent.

Niles Police Sgt. Robert Tornabene said there was no indication in the police report that the caller in the Nov. 5 scam had spoken to the victim in a language other than English. As of Nov. 8, it was the only incident of its kind to have been reported to Niles police, Tornabene said.

The IRS on Oct. 31 issued a warning to taxpayers regarding the phone scam, which has been reported throughout the country. According to the warning, actual IRS agents "will not ask for credit card numbers over the phone, nor request a pre-paid debit card or wire transfer."

Taxpayers who think they may owe back taxes are advised to contact the IRS at (800) 829-1040 if they receive a call from someone claiming to be with the IRS. Those who have no reason to believe they owe money are asked to report the call to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at (800) 366-4484.

POLICE

Three Park Ridge gas stations accused of selling cigarettes to minors

Three Park Ridge retailers recently failed a sting conducted by the Park Ridge Police Department aimed at the enforcement of a law prohibits cigarettes from being sold to minors.

Using undercover teenage informants who attempted to buy cigarettes from Park Ridge retailers, the tobacco-law compliance checks took place Nov. 1. The establishments failed the check after clerks allegedly sold cigarettes to the underage informants.

The stations that failed were the Shell gas station at Touhy Avenue and Dee Road; the Shell station at 900 Talcott Road; and the Marathon station at 515 Talcott Road, said Park Ridge Deputy Police Chief Lou Jogmen.

The clerks at each establishment were cited by the police department for unlawful sale of tobacco and were assigned a Dec. 10 adjudication hearing date.

While under different ownership, the Shell station at 900 Talcott failed similar compliance checks in February of this year and in November 2012, Jogmen said. There are no additional sanctions planned against the gas station at this time, he added.
POLICE BLOTTER

The following incidents were listed in the official bulletin of the Niles Police Department. Readers are reminded that an arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt. Only a court of law can make that determination.

RETAIL THEFT

Elizabeth Mateycak, 24, of 2025 N. Sarah St., Franklin Park, was charged with retail theft on Oct. 28. According to police, Mateycak admitted to stealing $800 over the last month while working as a cashier at a store inside Golf Mill Shopping Center. She has a Nov. 20 court date.

Tugudar Baatar, 23, of 2580 Golf Road, Glenview, was charged with retail theft on Oct. 29 after he allegedly stole several items of merchandise from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center and then ran from the store's loss prevention agent. Baatar was taken into custody in a driveway on the 9200 block of Delphia Avenue in unincorporated Maine Township. He has a Nov. 13 court date.

DUI

Ankeet Patel, 29, of 9353 Fern Lane, unincorporated Maine Township, was charged with driving under the influence on Nov. 2 after he was stopped by police for reportedly speeding on the 8600 block of Milwaukee Avenue just before 3 a.m. He has a Dec. 11 court date.

Michael Przybylski, 60, of 8443 Harms Road, Skokie, was charged with driving under the influence on Nov. 2. He was taken into custody at Dempster Street and Oriole Avenue at 1:12 a.m. after he was stopped for allegedly speeding and swerving between lanes. He has a Dec. 20 court date.

CRIME BRIEFS

THEFT

On the night of Oct. 31, a Niles man entered a restaurant on the 9000 block of Milwaukee Avenue, offered food and allegedly took approximately $5 in cash from a tip jar. A witness confronted the man, who fled the restaurant and left his cell phone on the front counter, police said. After contacting the man's mother, an agreement was reached with a restaurant representative that he not return to the establishment. Police said the restaurant did not want the cash reimbursed.

An employee of a store on the 9400 block of Milwaukee Avenue told police that her purse was stolen on the morning of Nov. 2 from the employee room. Police said another employee had encountered an unknown man inside the room who claimed he was looking for the restroom. On the afternoon of Nov. 3, a man allegedly stole a lock and window decal, valued at $23, from a store on the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue.

BURGLARY TO VEHICLE

Several tools valued at approximately $1,400 were stolen Oct. 31 from a vehicle parked on the 8100 block of Ozark Avenue.

Three power tools valued at $1,000 were reported stolen overnight between Nov. 2 and Nov. 3 from an unlocked van parked in a driveway on the 7300 block of Crain Street.

A vehicle parked overnight between Nov. 3 and Nov. 4 on the 6800 block of Touhy Avenue.

A GPS device and purse containing $200 in cash and credit cards were stolen overnight between Nov. 3 and Nov. 4 from a vehicle parked on the 7500 block of Neya Avenue.

Burglary to vehicle

Several tools valued at approximately $1,400 were stolen Oct. 31 from a vehicle parked on the 8100 block of Ozark Avenue.

A pack of cigarettes and $4 in change were stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked overnight between Nov. 3 and Nov. 4 in a driveway on the 8500 block of Clara Drive.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

Several holes were discovered drilled in the base of a tree on the 8000 block of Oriole Avenue between Aug. 1 and Oct. 29.

A 66-year-old man told police on Oct. 30 that he discovered his landscaping solar-powered lights had been destroyed in the front yard of his home on the 8100 block of Meacham Court. According to police, a woman who lives nearby was suspected of causing the damage.

All four tires were slashed on an SUV parked between Nov. 2 and Nov. 4 in the 8000 block of Touhy Avenue.

Overnight between Nov. 3 and Nov. 4 from a vehicle parked on the 7500 block of Neya Avenue.

A pack of cigarettes and $4 in change were stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked overnight between Nov. 3 and Nov. 4 in a driveway on the 8500 block of Clara Drive.

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Teen trades freshman year for sitcom stardom on 'The Goldbergs'

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON

Teen trade freshman year for sitcom stardom on 'The Goldbergs'

H is Maine South High School classmates may be enduring life as bottom-of-the-social-hierarchy freshmen, but Sean Giambrone is learning what it's like to be rising star. The 14-year-old has traded football games and the 7:45 a.m. first-period bell for Hollywood, appearing as the camcorder-toting youngest child of the Goldberg clan on new ABC sitcom "The Goldbergs."

Cast as 11-year-old Adam Goldberg, a character based on the show's creator of the same name, Park Ridge's Giambrone was hired just days after his initial audition and was appearing on camera the following Monday. The job came as a surprise - he hadn't even packed his toothbrush for the L.A. trip, he says.

But the curly-haired actor isn't a complete stranger to show business. He's appeared in commercials for McDonald's, Friendly's Restaurants and in a national campaign for Sea World. The last one, he says, got him recognition within the television industry.

"The Goldbergs," which also stars Morton Grove native Jeff Garlin, is based on the real Adam Goldberg's actual archive of video he recorded as a child growing up in the 1980s. In following his family around with a camcorder, Goldberg captured many examples their wacky behavior, footage the cast gets to see as they prepare to tape their scenes.

In addition to appearing on "The Goldbergs," Giambrone is the voice of Jeff, a sidekick on the soon-to-air animated series "Clarence" on Cartoon Network.

He plans to return to Park Ridge - and be back at Maine South - in February once filming for "The Goldbergs" wraps.

Q: "The Goldbergs" recently got picked up for a full season. How do you feel about that?
A: I'm wonderful. I went to Las Vegas to celebrate and it was wild, but I loved it. I went to all the casinos and I was going to order a milkshake and then it said there was a marshmallow vodka in it and I was like, "Oh jeez!" We went to Hoover Dam, too. That was really cool.

Q: How did you get into acting?
A: I started out doing the variety show at Roosevelt School. It was something I enjoyed and I didn't think anything of it. Then my mom heard those commercials on the radio (that say) "how you would like to be on -?" [and they name various TV shows]. Me and my brother weren't sure about it. Then we found out it was a scam. My parents made sure I really enjoyed [acting] and we found two [casting] agencies and that led to a commercial for Sea World, and then Sea World led to this.

Q: How did you get cast on "The Goldbergs"?
A: While I was out here doing "Clarence," they were like, "Why don't you meet some of the casting agents?" I thought, "Well, OK. It can't hurt." The first [audition] I was did was for Disney, but the next one was for Adam Goldberg, entitled Project. I first auditioned on a Wednesday, got called back on a Thursday, and then Friday they picked me. On that Monday we started shooting the pilot. It was really fast. They were looking for someone quick.

Q: What was your reaction when you got cast?
A: It just happened so fast that I was like, "Wow!" When I actually started filming is when it sunk in. I was supposed to be going home and I forgot to bring a tooth brush! I was still kind of shocked. But I had a big grin on my face the whole time.

Q: Your character does a lot of videotaping of his family. Is that cool or a little weird?
A: Personally, I think it's really kind of cool. Without these video tapes, all this stuff wouldn't have been seen, it wouldn't have been remembered. Like the big things that happened. In the pilot you see [Adam Goldberg's] grandpa crash into the drive-in. His grandpa [in real life] actually did crash into a restaurant sign. But the smaller stuff he filmed I also think is kind of cool, especially because you can see what the person you are working as was like when he was younger. ... It's funny because we watch some of the older clips of him and it's identical to how he is now. ... He's just a really fun guy, a great guy, so nice.

Q: If you could record your own family for TV, what types of things would you record doing?
A: One thing that always makes me laugh is when my brother plays basketball or is skateboarding. He just has weird ways of doing things that always makes me laugh. Another thing is, my grandma has a thousand different kinds of "old wives" sayings and stuff. One is "Never pin a rose on me, I'm gonna be clean as May." I have no clue what that means. She always says it and so I would tape that, too.

Q: What have you learned about the 80s from doing "The Goldbergs"?
A: I learned about all the hairstyles that make me laugh. Like the mullet -- that gets me every time. And the clothing ... I'm like, "People actually wore that?" And, surprisingly, the Z Cavariccis are one of the most comfortable pants I ever put on. And then the short-shorts kind of get me. Now girls wear short-shorts, but back then it seemed like only the guys wore them. I would have to change my shorts if I went to school with those on!

Q: What's it like being a teenager and going to work on a TV set everyday?
A: It's pretty awesome, I'd say. You just go the set and you don't really know what's coming -- it's a new adventure every day. And the scenes are just wildly different from each other. The plot lines are changing every day.

Q: Do you have a favorite episode?
A: That's a tough one. I did like Halloween, because I got to wear all these different costumes. So the real Halloween was almost anticlimactic because there was candy on set [during the Halloween episode taping] and I was eating boatloads of candy.

Q: Do you think you want to keep acting into the future?
A: I really love doing it, but if it doesn't happen, you gotta look for new things you enjoy doing just as much. ... Hopefully it keeps on going!
District 207 looking to hike property taxes next year

BY NATASHA WASINSKI
For Sun-Times Media | @natwaz

Maine Township High School District 207 will be talking taxes in the coming weeks as the board of education considers both a larger levy and property-tax abatement.

Board members on Nov. 4 expressed preliminary support for collecting $5.6 million more in local property taxes for 2013. The proposed $11.6 million levy represents a 3.4 percent increase over last year's tax extension.

But simply asking for more tax dollars is no guarantee the district will get the money.

Illinois' "tax cap" law limits property tax increases to the rate of inflation, up to 5 percent. Based on the current Consumer Price Index, the district is allowed to levy 17 percent more in revenue — roughly $1.8 million — plus taxes associated with new construction.

The increase means homeowners would pay an additional $17 for every $1,000 in District 207 taxes.

Returning surplus dollars to taxpayers would help lighten that load. Officials in early September approved a $141.3 million budget with $5.5 million in extra funds. An audit of the district's financials dated June 30 put the surplus at $8 million.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Mary Kalou anticipates a $1.38 million reduction in levied taxes if the board in December chooses to continue the district's "tradition" of abating the debt service fund.

Last spring the cash-flush board of education returned $1 million in property taxes as the result of a $3 million surplus.

"That's great news for the taxpayers in District 207," said board member Eric Leys, adding he was pleased district's fiscal prudence. The board of education is expected to vote on the levy Dec. 2 following a public hearing.

Kalou explained it was advantageous to pass a higher-than-normal levy since taxing bodies must calculate blindly for construction.

One-third of the district's proposed tax increase is attributed to "new growth," or properties with better assessed values due to improvements or additions.

If the cumulative growth total amounts to $40 million, District 207 could get an additional $827,000. Yet since new growth has dropped substantially in recent years, the district is more likely to receive half that amount, or $463,000.

"You cannot collect taxes on new growth that doesn't exist," Kalou stated.

Levying a bit higher also provides wiggle room for collecting surprise tax dollars.

"You never know when an existing property will lose its tax-exempt status," said Kalou.

Regardless of what gets added to the tax roll, the district predicts a tax rate of $2.21 for every $100 of a property's equalized assessed value.
Morton Grove promotes top detective to sergeant

BY RICK KAMBIC
rkambic@pioneerlocal.com | @rckambic

One of Morton Grove's young detectives will now be sharing his knack for details and keen ability to interview with an entire shift of officers.

Detective Dan Warrensford was promoted to sergeant on Nov. 11 after 12 years with Morton Grove's police department.

"You know leadership when you see it, and I saw Dan coming a mile away," Chief Mark Erickson said.

The promotion comes after a series of retirements that also led to Officer Eric Eimer becoming a Sergeant and Sgt. Ed Panko being promoted to commander in July.

In his new role, Warrensford is responsible for all decisions made on the streets of Morton Grove during his shift. Warrensford decides what beats each officer gets, is updated regularly on the status of all areas of town and any ongoing encounters, and serves as the head decision-maker.

Warrensford grew up in California, but earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Northeastern Illinois University in 2001. He spent two years monitoring the Wheeling Park District for a private security company before joining Morton Grove's police department in 2002.

By 2007, Warrensford was assigned to a special operations unit that worked on street-level gang, drugs and property-related crimes. He became a detective in 2007 and investigated burglaries, robberies, financial crimes and crimes against people.

"Morton Grove has been an excellent department to work for, especially the administration," Warrensford said. "This is a professional origination that promotes personal growth and Chief Erickson, Deputy Chief Stromberg and Deputy Chief Fennely have been outstanding mentors."

Erickson gave Warrensford the Chief's Meritorious Service Award and the Top Cop Award twice in recent years. Cook County also recognized Warrensford in 2007 with the Law Enforcement Award of Merit.

"Dan [Warrensford] was a very good street officer with a great sixth sense on where the trouble was," Erickson said. "There's no one better than him in an interview. He's made some big arrests in his career. Our residents have one of the best looking out for them."

Warrensford's most recent Top Cop Award was in 2012 after he recovered a stolen vehicle, found a suspect, got a confession, and then linked information from the interview to numerous unsolved cases.

Details led him to more evidence that solved another car theft, several burglaries of both homes and cars and solved a case regarding five arson incidents over a six-month period — all were non-structure fires. Warrensford had stronger evidence during subsequent interviews and received confessions from connected suspects.

In addition to his regular duties as a detective, Warrensford also served as a juvenile officer, field training officer, and as a trustee for the Morton Grove police pension fund.

Erickson said he hasn't decided which shift Warrensford will be assigned to yet.
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Companies play blame game over bathroom

Becky Betts of Glenview recently sent out this email to a neighborhood email group, hoping to get some insight into her situation.

Dear Neighbors,
Has anybody had any success getting Martin Greens [landscape contractors] to respond to an issue? If so, I would appreciate your advice in letting me know what you did. [Two] weeks ago, Martin Greens broke the glass on my screen door while cutting my lawn. Twice, Juan, of Martin Greens, has told me that he has a window person coming out to make the repair that day, but nobody shows.

Wish we could say the same for this next situation.

Dear Help Squad,
I was told you could help me with this problem. Can you please read my letter to the Better Business Bureau and inform me if you can help me? I am unemployed and do not have the resources to hire an attorney at this time. I am under a lot of stress, and I am scheduled to have surgery, and have to come back home to a dysfunctional bathroom.

Shirlener Gardner
Beach Park

Here is an excerpt from Gardner’s letter:

“...I am writing to inform you of shady, possibly illegal business practice with Allstate concerning my home insurance. I contacted Allstate on October 4, 2013 in regards to my first-floor bathroom. I informed Allstate that oil was leaking from my bathroom floor by the toilet. The agent I spoke to asked me if I wanted to proceed with a claim.

“Allstate sent someone over from Servpro, and they proceeded to remove my toilet, sink, doors, cut my walls four feet from the flour and they removed my hardwood floors from the bathroom. Also they removed the hardwood floors in my hallway and parts of the floor in my dining room. They then proceeded to leave after they tore my house up.

“After receiving pictures from Servpro, Allstate contacted me to inform me that they would not be paying for my bathroom, that my policy doesn’t cover leaks. Now my bathroom is torn up and Allstate will not pay to have my bathroom repaired and fixed back to its original state. I am living in an unhealthy space in my own home. I feel they should repair my bathroom and home back to its original state with the repairs fixed.”

Dear Shirlener,
Help Squad started with Allstate, and actually spoke with your agent, who explained that your policy only covers “sudden or accidental damage,” and in the adjustor’s opinion, that was not the case.

What boggled our minds, however, is that they ripped up your bathroom and left it that way, which is what we explained to the agent, who then directed us to Servpro, implying they were responsible.

After days and days calling different representatives from Servpro headquarters, including the president of the company, we were informed by a representative of Servpro that Allstate authorized their company to tear up the bathroom, but they wouldn’t show us any proof of that authorization.

It seems Allstate and Servpro are playing the blame game here, and the one who is losing is you since neither company is willing to step up and pay a construction company to put your bathroom back together again.

After being transferred to corporate relations several times by Allstate, we have gotten nowhere with this.

We apologize that we were unable to help you, but we do have a suggestion: Prairie State Legal Services offers free legal representation to residents in Lake County who can’t otherwise obtain an attorney for a civil legal issue. You may reach them at (847) 662-6925.
High School Cube News, Sun-Times Media's new high school sports website, launched this week. It's the latest evolution in Chicago area prep sports coverage. High School Cube News will integrate all the highlights and live games from HighSchoolCube.com with the comprehensive coverage formerly provided by Season Pass.

High School Cube News features school and team pages for every area high school, with live game coverage and highlights from participating schools. Now, all 32 Pioneer Press weekly publications have their very own High School Cube News sites with a hyper-local focus on your favorite teams.

Go to highschoolcubenews.com or click "SPORTS" on your local newspaper site.
Amnesty period nears end

If you have been taking multiple exemptions on the property tax bill for your house, time is running out on the amnesty period set by the Cook County assessor’s office to make reimbursement for the improper tax savings.

I’m encouraging residents who have received erroneous property tax exemptions to take advantage of the amnesty period, which allows taxpayers to report and pay back the erroneous savings without penalty or interest.

After Dec. 31, my office will investigate unreported and require a taxpayer who has benefited from such an exemption to pay additional fees and interest on their savings or face civil and criminal prosecution.

I want to make sure taxpayers are all paying their fair share of property tax, no more and no less.

In Illinois, a person is allowed to collect a property tax exemption only on the home that is his or her primary residence in the United States. A new law I initiated and that Gov. Pat Quinn has signed gives Cook County the means to recoup funds from those who have improperly received homeowner, senior citizen, disabled person or disabled veteran exemptions.

The law requires an amnesty period to allow taxpayers who wrongly claimed one or two exemptions to repay the savings by the end of the year. Those who claimed three or more exemptions in error are not eligible for amnesty, which began June 1 and runs through Dec. 31.

I proposed the measure shortly after taking office as county assessor in December 2010. My office was receiving a high volume of emails and anonymous phone calls reporting that people were improperly getting tax exemptions. In the vast majority of those cases, the claims were proved to be true.

Since July 1, the assessor’s office has billed taxpayers more than $1 million for improper tax savings.

The success of the amnesty program has illustrated just how much this new law was needed. Prior to this law, my office had no means to recover the money taxpayers unfairly received and nothing to deter them from claiming erroneous exemptions in the future.

Taxpayers may visit the assessor’s office website (www.cookcountyassessor.com) to obtain additional information regarding the amnesty period and how to report erroneous exemption savings.

Joseph Berrios  
Cook County Assessor

Husband and wife place stunning bet

I don’t consider myself a gambling man — the I-gotta-go-to-Vegas type. I’ve never even walked into a local casino.

But I do enjoy a friendly wager. I’ve played a hand or two of nickel and dime poker with friends, and I enjoy a dollar bet at the hall game trying to guess what the next batter will do. I’ve also filled in my share of Super Bowl squares over time.

It’s a friendly wager, and the point of such gambling or taking such a bet is not about winning a few dollars. It’s about fun and camaraderie. It is a way of playing the social game and just being an overall good sport, and sometimes a good friend.

In my Rotary Club we have two rabid football fans. One is a forever Bears fan and the other is a diehard Packers fan. They have a friendly wager on the annual Bears-Packers games and the payoff, coupled with some good-natured teasing by the winner of the bet aimed at the loser, is always at the next Rotary meeting.

It’s fun, and we all have a good laugh.

But that is not how things unfolded last week between a different pair — one a Bears fan and the other a Packers fan — from the south suburbs.

They also happen to be husband and wife.

Their bet was a bit more sinister. The stakes in the wager was a Tasing. The winner got to use a Taser electric stun gun on the loser.

The Bear fan husband won the bet over his Packer fan wife, so he got to use the Taser on her. I suppose there are some husbands out there who fantasize over using a Taser on their wife, but I can’t think of a single soul (soon-to-be single?) who would actually do it. Except this guy.

"I suppose there are some husbands out there who fantasize over using a Taser on their wife, but I can’t think of a single soul (soon-to-be single?) who would actually do it. Except this guy.”

Their bear husband was arrested for possessing an electronic weapon.

What kind of person willingly makes a bet to use a Taser on a loved one if they win, or get Tased if they lose? What kind of person would actually use a Taser on a loved one?

Obviously, the same kind of person who would call the cops on a loved one after agreeing to be Tased.

I have to admit, these two are made for each other.

I hate to think what’s at stake when the Cubs take on the White Sox.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

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

Keep letters to 250 words or fewer. Niles Herald-Spectator reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity and content. All letters must be signed to be published.
It's like a smorgasbord, except they tell you what you ought to eat.
Or, rather, what my car ought to eat.
I'm very punctual about changing the oil in my car.
There was a time when I wasn't. But that's another story for another time, a story involving smoke, fire and police officers.
Every 3,000 miles, or twice a year, I take my car to one of those oil-change places that dot the suburban landscape.
My car and I order an oil change.
I wait in the little room just outside the work area. I glance at the TV, perhaps avail myself of the complimentary coffee. But I'm really watching them look over my car.
I wait in the little room just outside the work area. I glance at the TV, perhaps avail myself of the complimentary coffee. But I'm really watching them look over my car.
After a few minutes my clipboard-clutching Customer Service Advisor walks in and feeds some info into a computer. "Mr. Sansonee?"
"Mr. Sansonee?"
That's me.
"We're working on your oil change. But I notice the manufacturer recommends ..."
This is the scary part. Coming in I know what an oil change costs. And I usually have a $10-off coupon.
Now they're going to tell me what my car ought to have. And I have no way of knowing whether or not they will be right. What do I know of fuel injectors and transmissions?
So I do what any American male who is ashamed he knows nothing about cars and motors does. I furrow my brow and look as if I am considering whether their diagnosis of what my car needs is the same as mine.
There are two women in the waiting room with me. When they get the diagnosis for expensive bits of maintenance, both reply, "I'd better ask my husband first."
Should I say: I'd better ask my wife first?
Would you? I thought not.
Done with sparring, my Customer Service Advisor lands a solid right. "I see we've recommended cleaning your fuel injectors the last six times you were in. I can give you 20 percent off today."
Usually I divert my Customer Service Advisor by agreeing to have something small and relatively inexpensive done instead of the big job. But since having done that the last couple of times in for an oil change I don't need my tires rotated, the air filter changed or a back bulb replaced.
So, I'm stuck. Either I OK a job I really can't afford, or I neglect to OK a job my good and faithful car may really need.
It's the Customer Service Advisor or the tiger.
What should I do?
What would you do?
**FEATURED HOME**

*BY WRAPPORTS NEWS SERVICE*

**8287 N. Ozanam Ave.**

*North, Niles*

- **House size:** 1,000 square feet
- **Lot size:** 6,600 square feet
- **Year built:** 1954
- **Bedrooms:** 2
- **Bathrooms:** 2
- **Garage:** Two-car detached
- **Property tax:** $5,294.25 (2012)
- **Exterior:** Brick

**School districts:** Golf Elementary School District 67 and Maine Township High School District 207

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**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

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**Pioneer Press Mortgage Guide**

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**Allstar Home Mortgage, Inc.**

- **30 yr fixed:** 4.125 0.000 0.000 20% 4.160
- **15 yr fixed:** 3.000 0.000 0.000 20% 3.061
- **5/1 ARM:** 2.875 0.000 0.000 20% 2.892
- **30 yr jumbo:** 4.500 0.000 0.000 20% 4.514

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**United Home Loans**

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- **5/1 jumbo ARM:** 2.750 0.000 0.000 20% 2.787
- **7/1 jumbo ARM:** 3.125 0.000 0.000 20% 2.859
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Niles
7929 N Odell Ave: Brian P Oneill Trust, Veronica Oneill Trust and Oneill Veronica Trust to Agnes K Ansay for $171,500 on Sept. 26

8435 W Clara Drive: Irving N Sonkin and Anna W Sonkin to Patrick M Burke for $239,000 on Sept. 25

8809 W Golf Road, #6j: Muharem Ramic and Edina Ramic to Mirsad Vokic and Jasmina Vokic for $64,500 on Sept. 24

Morton Grove
8620 Waukegan Road, #404: Sergey Tabachnikov and Oksana to Radion G Liberman for $125,000 on Sept. 26

8300 Concord Drive, #208: Daylower Properties LLC to Koplin Trafalgar Square LLC for $2,300,000 on Sept. 25

8215 Menard Ave: Nazimuddin T Mohammed and Aisha Mohammed to Siraj Ahmed for $585,000 on Sept. 24

5812 Capulina Ave: Arkady Shlyapintokh and Roza Shlyapintokh to Sabeel S Ahmed and Sameena Ziauddin for $370,000 on Sept. 24

5704 Carol Ave: Paul Torres and Andrea Torres to Misako Rivera for $345,000 on Sept. 25

5982 15th Ave Property LLC to 1h2 Property LP for $295,000 on Sept. 25

1777 Long Valley Road: Ronald C Dahlquist Trust, C Dahlquist Ronald Trust and Ronald C Dahlquist Trust to Melissa Dahlquist and Sven R Dahlquist for $235,000 on Sept. 26

5101 Dempster St: Partners A&S to Parking Lots Inc for $139,000 on Sept. 24

4900 Foster St, #411: Michael Svanascini to Anthony Svanascini and Alla Rassomakha for $135,000 on Sept. 26

5704 Carol Ave: Paul Torres and Andrea Torres to Misako Rivera for $345,000 on Sept. 25

107 Berry Parkway: Michael L Keesey and Patricia G Keesey to Kirk A Behrens and Linda F Behrens for $680,000 on Sept. 27

Skokie
5442 Harvard Terrace: Niles Township Schools Cu to Eun J Kim and Daesung Hwangbo for $212,000 on Sept. 25

7861 Niles Center Road, #2: Ashourina Hartoun to Tina Kalbogies for $140,000 on Sept. 25

3712 N Crawford Ave: Phillip Gzesh and Gerry Ann Gzesh to Paul Youkhanna for $205,000 on Sept. 24

5010 Dempster St: Partners A&S to Parking Lots Inc for $139,000 on Sept. 24

3926 Louise St: David Laza and Alina Laza to Fazila Bawany and Sohall Bawany for $310,000 on Sept. 25

1520 Hoffman Ave: Nagu Meyyappan to Janice M Schmipf for $335,000 on Sept. 27

5812 Capulina Ave: Arkady Shlyapintokh and Roza Shlyapintokh to Sabeel S Ahmed and Sameena Ziauddin for $370,000 on Sept. 24

648 Spring Road: Diane E Redszus and Diane Redszus Zimmer to Richard Pastor for $225,000 on Sept. 25

3712 N Crawford Ave: Phillip Gzesh and Gerry Ann Gzesh to Paul Youkhanna for $205,000 on Sept. 24
COMMUNITY CALENDAR
BY WRAPPORTS NEWS SERVICE

NILES

THURSDAY, NOV. 14

Teen Speaker Series
5:30 p.m.: An employee from Wright Way Animal Rescue will be teaching Teen Center members about animal rescue and the adoption process. Niles Teen Center, 373 Golf Mill Center, Niles. Call 847-588-8000.

SATURDAY, NOV. 16

Turkey Shoot
Noon: Teams will shoot free throws for a chance to win a turkey for Thanksgiving dinner. Teams consist of one adult and one child in kindergarten through eighth grade. Registration deadline was Nov. 1. Feldman Recreation Center, 8900 W. Kathy Lane, Niles. Call 847-237-3000. $8.

TUESDAY, NOV. 19

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

THURSDAY, NOV. 21

Niles Songwriters Group
7 p.m.: Join other singer/songwriters for a friendly meeting. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Okato St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

HAPPENING NEARBY

THURSDAY, NOV. 14

Story Time for 2s
9:30 a.m.: Stories and songs for 2-year-olds with an adult. A second session is held at 10 a.m. Wednesdays. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Story Time for 3s

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

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.

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 draw them out of the house while an accomplice robs the home. Niles Senior Center, 999 Civic Center Drive, Niles. Call 847-588-8000.

Exploring Library E-Books
7 p.m.: Learn to search, browse for popular materials, and explore My Media Mall, the library’s e-book catalog. Registration required. For more information or to register, go to calendar.mgpl.org or call 847-929-5101. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

Friday Morning Coffee Club: ‘White House Revealed’
10 a.m.: Stop by for coffee and a movie. This week’s film gives an insider’s tour of the most famous house in the world. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Social Media 101: Facebook
10:30 a.m.: Learn how to set up a profile and connect with friends. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-867-7828.

Knitting for All Ages
3:30 p.m.: Learn the basics of knitting and crochet. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-677-5277.

Girls’ Night Out
5:30 p.m.: The Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation will be hosting a night of Pinterest-inspired DIY projects and tasty recipes. Must be 18 or older to attend. Prairie View Community Center, 6834 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-966-5522. $22-$54.

YA Quarter Quell: An After-Hours Hunger Games Event
6 p.m.: Students grades five to 12 will compete to be the final tribute left standing. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Minecraft Club
6 p.m.: Children in grades four to eight can join, but space is limited. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-7500.

Job Hunting on the Internet
10 a.m.: Learn how to use the tools available on the Internet to benefit your job search. To register, call 847-720-3245. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge.

International Games Day

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FOR US.

SATURDAY, NOV. 16

Holiday Boutique & Luncheon

Private Label Trade Show
9 a.m.: Buyers from major supermarkets, convenience stores, drugstores, online retailers and more will be on site to browse new products from more than 1,000 suppliers. Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 N. River Road, Rosemont. Call 224-972-3131.

Traveling World of Reptiles
10:30 a.m.: Dave DeNaslo’s show returns with entertaining, educational and up-close experiences with live animals, including snakes, frogs, alligators, turtles and lizards. Ethical Humanist Society, 7514 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-3334.

Lyric Opera Profile: ‘La Traviata’
2 p.m.: Peggy Shake presents a profile of Verdi’s

SEE CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE »
famous opera, which is based on "La dame aux Camélias," a play adapted from the novel by Alexandre Dumas. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave, Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

Live @ Lincolnwood: Banjos and Bagels Klezmer Concert
2 p.m.: Listen to the sounds of the Banjos and Bagels Band and nosh on bagels and corned beef. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-877-5277.

Career Support Group
9:30 a.m.: Network with others who are looking for work and learn strategies for finding a job. The group meets on the third Monday of each month. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-324-3176.

Harmonious Horizons
10:20 a.m.: A family music class that includes singing, dancing and playing instruments. For children ages 1 month to 5 years old with a caregiver. Class repeats at 11 a.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Teddy Bear Time
11 a.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.

Writers Workshop
11 a.m.: The group meets on the third Monday of each month. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge.

Story Time for All Ages
11:30 a.m.: Stories, songs and finger plays for the whole family. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Park Ridge City Council Meeting
7 p.m.: Park Ridge City Hall, 505 Butler Place, Park Ridge. Call 847-318-5200.

The Old Things Antique Club of Park Ridge
7:30 p.m.: Meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month for those who enjoy or collect antiques. For more information, email oldthingsantiqueclub@gmail.com. Iannelli Studios Heritage Center, 255 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge. Call 847-692-3718. Free.

SCORE Counseling Appointments
9 a.m.: Counselors from SCORE will advise small business owners on building success. Appointments are required and can be made online or by phone. Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3122.

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

Story Time for 4s and 5s

Genealogy Interest Group
11:30 a.m.: Participants will research their family history and exchange ideas, techniques and other tips and tricks of researching genealogy. Registration is required. Group is limited to 10. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

Skype
7 p.m.: Learn how to make video calls with family and friends using Skype. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Meet with a Member from Illinois State Rep. Marty Moylan’s Office
9 a.m.: A member from Illinois state Rep. Marty Moylan’s office will meet with residents to answer questions. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

iPod Basics
10 a.m.: Learn how to use an iPad. iPad owners should bring their devices. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

PAD Basics
10 a.m.: Learn how to use an iPad. iPad owners should bring their devices. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Microsoft Excel 2007 Basics
2 p.m.: Learn how to make lists, enter data and keep records with the spreadsheet program. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

iPad Apps
7 p.m.: Take a demo iPad class to learn about the best apps for the iPad. Feel free to take your own iPad. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge.
Heather Moore Jewelry is the finest personalized collection. Each name, date and symbol is hand stamped with vintage tooling and made to your specifications with recycled precious metals.

“We are making impressions in the metal just like the story that you are documenting has made an impression in your life. You have to embrace those moments and Cherish Who You Are®.” – Heather Moore

Heather Moore Trunk Show
Wednesday, November 20th
10AM - 5PM

You Are Cordially Invited to Attend Our
HEATHER MOORE TRUNK SHOW

Peachtree Place
303 Happ Road • Northfield, IL 60093 • (847) 441-7585
WWW.PEACHTREEPLACEONLINE.COM
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 am - 5:30 pm, Sat. 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Niles is a diverse village, and so are its businesses. The village has plenty of grocery stores, bookstores, pharmacies, services and other types of businesses that cater to certain ethnic groups. And while Niles doesn't have ethnic neighborhoods the way Chicago does, there are several clusters of ethnic stores.

Niles' Greek-American community is relatively small, accounting for about five percent of the village's overall population. But there is a small group of Greek businesses on Courtland Drive, near the intersection of Courtland and Milwaukee. There are three stores in total — Pandora's Gifts and Baskets, Kappa Cell and Gifts store and Brillakis Import Foods.

A little further southeast, some of Niles' more recent arrivals are making their mark. The section of Milwaukee Avenue between Ballard Road and Courtland Drive is home to several businesses that primarily cater to Arabs, Persians and other immigrants from Middle Eastern countries. That includes Arax and Zander grocery stores, Detroit Kabob fast food eatery and Sara Meat Market.

These clusters form for many reasons. In some cases, as one store opens, other stores pop up around it to draw on its customers. Kappa Cell and Gifts opened on Courtland precisely because of the Greek businesses that were already there.

"It was definitely a major reason," said co-owner Yiannis Morikis. "And it has helped."

In other cases, it was simply the matter of taking advantage of demand from the local population. Because no one store can have everything at once, there's incentive for more businesses to open up and fill in the gaps.

"There are many people from the Middle East in this area," said Paris Shadid, owner of Sara's Meat Market. "Each of us has our own niche. I sell meats, Zander sells groceries."

Polish-Americans are one of Niles' largest ethnic groups, accounting for 22 percent of the population. Milwaukee Avenue has historically been one of the major commercial corridors in the Chicago area's Polish community, so it's only natural that most of Niles' Polish businesses are located there, in the section between Oakton and Monroe streets.

Those businesses include VideoPal music and video store, Atlantis Jewelry, Deja Vu Hair Salon and Spa and MPC Associates, an accounting firm. The shopping strip continues to attract new businesses — Ksiegnarnia Wrona, a Polish bookstore, opened there in July.

Korean-Americans account for 4 percent of the Niles population, but in terms of ethnic businesses, they are second only to Poles. The biggest concentration of Korean businesses is located at the Civic Center Plaza, southeast of the intersection of Oakton Street and Waukegan Road. H-Mart, a Korean-American grocery store chain, chose the plaza for its Niles location. Some of the smaller stores include Korean Music and Books and Italiana Fashions, which offers traditional Korean clothing alongside more contemporary selections. The plaza is also home to Arirang Korean restaurant, King Spa and Sauna and Chicago My Optical, a bilingual eye care center.

There is also a large group of Korean and Polish stores in the section of Milwaukee Avenue between Dempster Street and Ballard Road. Assi Plaza, an multi-ethnic East Asian grocery store, operates its only Illinois location within that corridor. Korean businesses include Albany Pharmacy, Fashion Vogue clothing store, Ruby Blue Jewelry and World of Life Christian bookstore. Polish businesses include Texture Hair Studio, Super Meble Furniture, and Vitaminka herbs and medicine store.

As time passes, the ethnic clusters may shift. In the 1990s, a small group of Russian-Americans businesses formed at Greenwood Plaza, northwest of the intersection of Milwaukee Avenue and Golf Road. Today, only one of those businesses — the City of Joy bookstore — remain.

"A lot of Russians who lived in Niles left," explained store co-owner Irina Rezina "And the [other Russian stores] closed."
Fundraising is in fashion for Resurrection H.S.

FALL FOR FASHION LUNCHEON
AND FASHION SHOW
BENEFITING: Resurrection College Prep High School
WHEN: Oct. 27
WHERE: Victoria Rosemont
ATTENDED: 185
RAISED: $10,000
LEGION OF YOUNG POLISH WOMEN FASHION SHOW/ FUNDRAISER
Benefiting: Polish American Organizations
Date: Sept. 29
Location: White Eagle Banquets & Restaurant, Niles
Attendees: 300
Raised: $5,000

Julia Casiano of Norridge [PHOTO COURTESY OF PHOTOMADOX]  
Veronica Lesny, Harwood Heights and Peter Golembiowski of Norridge [PHOTO COURTESY OF PHOTOMADOX]

ZURKO ANTIQUE EVENTS
ANTIQUE FLEA MARKET
SAT. NOV. 16th (8AM-3PM)/$5
(COUNTY FARM & MANCHESTER)  
DuPage County Fairgrounds  
WHEATON, IL - VENDORS WELCOME!
ZURKO 715-526-9769
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3 GREAT FLEA MARKETS
Every SAT. & SUN.
7 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Alsip
Also WEDNESDAY! 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.
4350 W. 129th St.

Ashland Ave.,
THURSDAY! 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
OUTDOORS ONLY
4200 SOUTH ASHLAND - CHICAGO
Melrose Park
Also FRIDAY! 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
4600 WEST LAKE STREET
773-227-1889
www.buyersfleamarket.com

Call 630-978-8229 to place your ad!
The guests at Tracey Kiefer and Casey Bloomer's wedding said everything, such as the handcrafted pieces and the chilled gazpacho shooters, was "so Tracey and Casey."

"We wanted a very specific look and feel for our wedding. We wanted it to reflect us," Tracey said.

Tracey is a Norridge native and the daughter of Michael and Christine Kiefer. Casey, the son of Kim and Rose Bloomer, is a native of Kalamazoo, Mich.

The couple met on Casey's birthday during a Christmas pub crawl in Lincoln Park. A year and a half later, they married at The Pavilion at Orchard Farms in Rockton. The organic farm and orchard provided the perfect amount of rustic elegance for their Aug. 4 celebration.

The Evanston residents' ceremony took place on a hilltop underneath the boughs of two oak trees. Instead of lighting a unity candle, they planted an oak sapling in a pot by combining soil from their parents' gardens.

One of Casey's fraternity brothers read "I Like You," a children's book that expressed the true meaning of friendship. He fell in love with the story and carried it with him from the rehearsal dinner to the end of the reception. Tracey and Casey had to buy him his own copy to get theirs back a month after the wedding.

The reception was inside the Pavilion barn, which had three sides of sliding glass doors that highlighted the captivating views of the countryside.

In less than nine months of wedding planning, Tracey and Casey, with the help of hardworking friends and family, put a personal touch on nearly every aspect of their wedding. They made banners, decorated cans and jars for floral arrangements and added chicken wire to large picture frames for memory collages and the seating chart. Casey and his dad, Kim, built a lemonade stand for refreshments at the ceremony.

The save the dates, invitations, menus, programs and place cards were made by Tracey's sorority sister Erin Flanagan-Kopenec, owner of Red Poppy Creative Studio. She detailed each piece with hand-drawn artwork of the pavilion and scenery.

As wedding gifts, Tracey and Casey gave each other bikes to ride during their "mini-moon" to Mackinac Island, Mich. She also gave him a bottle of Maker's Mark that was customized for his fraternity, Sigma Nu, and he gave her a pair of diamond earrings that matched her engagement ring.

Tracey is a senior project manager for Takeda Pharmaceuticals in Brookfield. Casey is a lead customer service representative for Fifth Third Bank in Glenview.

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

Facebook.com/BouquetCatcher  Twitter @BouquetCatcher  Pinterest.com/BouquetCatcher
Part 2: Employee Loyalty: The Perfect Storm of Worker Discontent

From Monster Intelligence

In the first part of this series on employee loyalty, we examined a few key factors of the "perfect storm" brewing around employee loyalty:

- More than 50% of workers are actively seeking to change jobs and have no allegiance to their employer.
- Companies are again growing their workforce as part of their recruiting strategy as the economy expands.
- To help compensate for renewed and increased worker demand, companies are increasing compensation and benefits.
- Workers are open and ready for new job opportunities.
- Higher salaries and better benefits often help in closing the deal with candidates.

The good news is, many companies are hiring at breakneck speed (86% of companies surveyed reported that they were currently recruiting for open positions) so job opportunities continue.

However, an interesting challenge has materialized. Companies will now be forced to defend their current workforce while attracting new workers – and as the intensity of this storm increases, employee loyalty will become a key advantage to their recruiting strategy.

Satisfaction Does Not Equal Employee Loyalty

On many levels, Monster research indicates that workers are generally satisfied with their work-life balance and feel challenged and interested in their work.

Most workers believe that they contribute to the success of the company; small company employees in particular have a stronger sense of accomplishment because they can see the immediate impact their work has on the bottom line.

While it's clear that most workers see the positive impact their work has on the company, what is interesting is that only half of survey participants reported that they felt fairly treated by their supervisor and that they were personally fulfilled by the work that they do.

The lowest numbers reported were around an emotional connection -- either to their boss, or to the company's core goals and objectives. This is where the difference between employee satisfaction and the concept of worker loyalty becomes clear.

So What Does Create Loyalty?

The same things that make a workplace a great place to work are the same building blocks of employee loyalty.

Is your workplace full of nice people that you like spending time with? Does your company provide a service that you truly believe in and feel proud of? These types of emotional connections are the threads that hold a loyal staff together and make workers want to stay.

On the other hand, does your manager's style make your life miserable? Are you just another head in a sea of cubicles? Hardly ever talk to any of your coworkers? The lack of emotional connection to people within an organization is almost always a sign of an uninterested, and ultimately disloyal, workforce.

On the topic of what keeps people loyal, a worker at a large company, who asked to remain anonymous, replied, it's the people that keep me here. I'm not particularly moved by the work, but I love the people.

Another surveyed respondent, as an example of loyalty, said that she had been offered a promotion but she declined it. She said, "I get along so well with my current boss and I don't know what would happen with the new boss. I wouldn't want that relationship to change, even if it meant better opportunities -- it's important to me."

So now that we understand the emotional motivations of a great team, it's time to put that knowledge to use.

The upcoming third and final part of this series will look at how to energize employee loyalty.
Holland – Wheeling IL
Holland is looking to hire 5 dockworkers for its Wheeling, IL terminal.
This is a great opportunity for college students or someone wanting to supplement their income. Shift is 6pm to midnight, Monday through Friday. Experience operating a forklift in an LTL environment is a plus. Qualified applicants must be at least 18 years of age and will be required to take a pre-employment drug test able to view clear and may need to take additional pre-employment testing/assessments. MUST apply online at www.hollanndregional.com/careers

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**St. Jude Children's Research Hospital**

**11th Annual St. Jude Dream a Little Dream Fashion Show**

**WHEN:**
Sunday, November 24, 2013
Donald E Stephens Convention Center • 5555 N River Rd, Rosemont, IL

**WHERE:**
Chicago, IL

**Theme:**
The Fashion Show by 2Jazz Productions includes Chicago designers, international styles, and new designers. Attendees receive a gift from Swarovski, Swarovski and Swarovski is donating a gift for each table. The Dream Raffle includes: $1,000 Nordstrom gift card, trip to Las Vegas, Louis Vuitton Designer Bag, Marie Tricoci spa party, Exclusive Getaways, big-screen TV, iPod, Scooter, Blackhawk Bears, Bulls, Cubs and Sox tickets; one-of-a-kind jewelry; and more! Stop by our silent auction while enjoying makeup by Trish McEvoy, hair by Paul Mitchell, and a program emceed by Allison Rosati from NBC5 Chicago, with Honorary Chair Peach Carr from Project Runway.

This Fashion Show by 2Jazz Productions includes Chicago designers, international styles, and new designers. Attendees receive a gift from Swarovski, Swarovski and Swarovski is donating a gift for each table. The Dream Raffle includes: $1,000 Nordstrom gift card, trip to Las Vegas, Louis Vuitton Designer Bag, Marie Tricoci spa party, Exclusive Getaways, big-screen TV, iPod, Scooter, Blackhawk Bears, Bulls, Cubs and Sox tickets; one-of-a-kind jewelry; and more! Stop by our silent auction while enjoying makeup by Trish McEvoy, hair by Paul Mitchell, and a program emceed by Allison Rosati from NBC5 Chicago, with Honorary Chair Peach Carr from Project Runway.

**Tagged #6 on BizBash Chicago’s Top Fashion Events, this Chicago happening sells out every year!**

This year’s event presented by

**St. Jude Dream a Little Dream Fashion Show site on Facebook and Twitter!**

Follow the Dream A Little Dream St. Jude Fashion Show site on Facebook and Twitter!
**Judicial Sales-Real Estate**

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**Notice of Sale Public Notice**

- **Property:** The mortgaged real estate is improved with a common family residence, the subject of the foreclosure sale.
- **Address:** 1101/1102/1103, street name unspecified.
- **Date:** September 28, 2013.
- **Location:** Champaign, Illinois.

**Judicial Sales-Real Estate**

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Gaining traction

#DRIVE

You're in the driver's seat at ToDrive.
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID NOTICE is hereby given that the Board of Education of Fairview School District No. 72, 7040 Laramie Avenue, Skokie, Cook County, Illinois, 60077, will receive sealed bids for the construction of the PRODUCTION PLACE PROJECT Fairview South Elementary School.

Bids will be received on or before 11/13/2013 at 10:00 AM at the Franklin Business Center, 14000 N. Lake Shore Drive, Skokie, IL 60077. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Meeting and walk-through will be held on Thursday, November 7, 2013 at 10:00 AM at the Franklin Business Center, 14000 N. Lake Shore Drive, Skokie, IL 60077. Bidders shall be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of financial responsibility.

The project is located within the Franklin Business Center, 14000 N. Lake Shore Drive, Skokie, IL 60077. The project is valued at $38,000,000. All goods and services will be purchased with funds derived from local funds.

The Board of Education of Fairview School District No. 72 reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to award the contract to the bidder considered most advantageous to the Board of Education. All bidders are advised that this project is subject to federal and local laws, rules, and regulations affecting the construction and administration of this project.

By Order of the Board of Education of Fairview School District No. 72,

[Signature]

Secretary, Board of Education.

[Date]

[School District]

[Name]

[Title]

[Contact Information]
LOST & FOUND

PAWS CHICAGO FOUNDER
PAULA FASSEAS IS THE CITY'S CANINE CRUSADER
ONE Taste IS ALL IT TAKES
**THINGS WE LOVE**

**H2O Plus Sea Lotus**
The Chicago-based skincare brand has taken the plunge, unveiling new products based on the hydrating properties of water lotuses. Protect against dry winter weather with the line's skin smoother, body lotion and body wash.

$17-$21, 845 W. Madison; H2Oplus.com

**Barrelhouse Flat Sunday service**
To celebrate its new Sunday service, the Lincoln Park craft cocktail spot is concocting a boozy ice cream sundae each week. With scoops like homemade vanilla bourbon gelato and toppings such as Fernet whipped cream, Sunday has never been sweeter. $7, 2624 N. Lincoln; Barrelhouseflat.com

**Grace Hayes linens**
The line of upscale linens, founded by former Holly Hunt exec Susie Mackenzie, includes bedding, bath towels and cloth napkins, perfect for adding a luxe pop to any dinner party. Pieces start at $36. Gracehayeslinens.com

**at the shoot**
Paule Fasseas welcomed the Splash team — and a half-dozen PAWS Chicago pups that will be up for adoption at the Fur Ball Nov. 15 — into her Gold Coast residence. We dressed her in Carolina Herrera gowns from Saks Fifth Avenue and draped her in jewels from PAWS supporter A. Marek Fine Jewelry — then surrounded her with dogs. Each of our staffers fell in love with a different four-legged friend; see the pics in our online gallery at ChicagoSplash.com.

**on the cover**
ON PAULA
Carolina Herrera gown, $5,999. Saks Fifth Avenue, 700 N. Michigan; Saksfifthavenue.com
A. Marek Fine Jewelry: mixed-cut Spring diamond earrings, $32,500; sapphire and diamond necklace, $93,000; mixed-cut diamond bracelet, $50,000; diamond line necklace, price upon request; cushion-cut sapphire and diamond ring, price upon request; 3021 Butterfield, Oak Brook; Amarekfinejewelry.com

**Credits**
Photographer: Kirsten Miccoli
Hair: Darrin Goins for Anthony Cristiano
Makeup: Sarah Lukasiewicz for Amazing Cosmetics
Stylist: KIt This
Shoot Coordinator: Katerina Bizios

**need to know**

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HAPPY HOUR SPOT?**

“Gilt Bar [230 W. Kinzie]. It’s right down the street from the Sun-Times building, and has the best (and potentially strongest) dirty martinis I’ve ever had.”
— photographer Kirsten Miccoli

“Adorable puppies mixed with amazing fashion ... this was a dream shoot for me! I have always been a huge dog lover and a supporter of PAWS.”
— photographer Kirsten Miccoli

“Monk’s Pub [215 W. Lake], especially if you can snag a table in the cozy little Library Room in the back. The beer list is also great.”
— photographer Kirsten Miccoli

“I love grabbing a drink at Jellyfish [1009 N. Rush]. You can sit at the window overlooking Rush and people-watch.”
— photographer Kirsten Miccoli

“Library Room at Gilt Bar [230 W. Kinzie]. It’s a great spot to have a drink and chat with friends.”
— photographer Kirsten Miccoli

“Happiest hour is The Local Option [1102 W. Webster] in Lincoln Park. Along with 30 beers on tap (most of which I’ve never heard of before), they have awesome Greek food and swordfish tacos.”
— Michael Ferro, Publisher

Splash is distributed weekly inside Sun-Times Media publications.
November 14

- **RIVER NORTH DANCE CHICAGO GALA**
  River North Dance Chicago kicks off its fall season Nov. 16 at the Harris Theater with "Autumn Passions," a trio of contemporary dance premiers. Celebrate the new season two nights early at the 2013 gala celebration, featuring a performance of vibrant works by Adam Barruch, Kevin Jea Jeff and Ashley Roland, followed by dinner and dancing.
  Time: 6 p.m.
  Place: Harris Theater, 205 E. Randolph
  Cost: $350, $175 for guests under 35. For tickets, call (312) 944-2888 or visit Rivernorthchicago.com.

November 15

- **BOLOGWOOD BLOWOUT**
  Anupy Singla from Apple Pie, Vandana Wali from VChilli Events and Shari Duffy of Ladies Night Chicago combine forces to celebrate the Indian New Year with food from top local Indian restaurants, cocktails, a fashion show, dancing and tunes from DJ Rehka. Proceeds benefit Gigi’s Playhouse, a nonprofit organization that helps youth with Down’s Syndrome.
  Time: 6 p.m.
  Place: Stan Mansion, 2408 N. Kedzie
  Cost: VIP $85, general admission $55. For tickets, visit Bollywoodb/owout-e.org.eventbrite.com.

November 16

- **JUF BIG EVENT FUNDRAISER**
  Comedians Jim Gaffigan and Amy Schumer bring the laughs at this annual benefit for the Jewish United Fund Young Leadership Division. Proceeds support agencies that act upon core Jewish values, including caring for people in need and sustaining the Jewish community.
  Time: 7:30 p.m.
  Place: Sheraton Chicago, 301 E. North Water
  Cost: $80 for JUF donors of $25 or more to the 2012 or 2013 annual campaign. $105 for new donors or donors below $25. For tickets, call (312) 357-4880 or visit Yldchicago.org/bigevent.
next week

November 17

- AN AFTERNOON WITH MR. DICKENS
Gerald Charles Dickens — great, great grandson of the beloved author — offers a light-hearted look at his esteemed ancestor and performs his own one-man version of the play “A Christmas Carol.” This festive occasion, complete with refreshments, takes place in the historic Stan Mansion.

Time: 1 p.m.
Place: 2408 N. Kedzie
Cost: Premiere admission $125, general admission $100. For tickets, visit britishstageevents.com.

November 18

- HOLIDAY SHOPPING FESTIVAL
Support and scout out one of our city’s top educational institutions by shopping for jewelry, clothes, makeup, toys and food at this fest and open house, where shops like Loni’s, Art Effect and Frankie’s will be on-hand and donate 20 percent of their proceeds to the Bernard Zell Anshe Emeth Day School.

Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Place: 3751 N. Broadway

November 22

- IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE: LIVE IN CHICAGO!
The American Blues Theater’s unique version of Frank Capra’s 1946 flick — performed as if it were an old-school radio broadcast, complete with sound effects and a cast of eight portraying multiple characters — brings Bedford Falls to life in the most charming way.

Place: Greenhouse Theater Center, 2257 N. Lincoln
Cost: $19-$49. For tickets, call (773) 404-7336 or visit Americanbluestheater.com.

November 29

- WINTER WISHES: HOLIDAY COCKTAIL CELEBRATION
Join 400 Chicagoans for a sophisticated, progressive cocktail reception, hosted by the Founders’ Board of Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago and co-chaired by Susan Chandler, Mirja Haffner and Jennifer Shea, Chicago High School for the Arts, providing the entertainment, and proceeds support the vital work of this leading health care institution.

Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: The Casino, 195 E. Delaware
Cost: $175. For tickets, visit Luriechildrens.org/winterwishes.

November 16

THE MAKEUP DATE
Learn the latest trends in makeup and skincare straight from the pros at this morning bash, hosted by Splash’s own Susanna Negovan, held on Bloomingdale’s newly renovated cosmetics floor. After breakfast bites and a runway show spotlighting the season’s looks, snap a one-on-one appointment with an expert and a limited-edition travel bag stuffed with fabulous samples.

Time: Doors open at 7:30 a.m., show at 8:30 a.m.
Place: Bloomingdale’s, 900 N. Michigan
Cost: $25 reservation fee credited toward the beauty item of your choice. RSVP by calling (312) 440-4515 or emailing Rsvpnorthmichigan@bloomingdales.com.

November 20

- WINTER WISHES: HOLIDAY COCKTAIL CELEBRATION

November 22

- IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE: LIVE IN CHICAGO!

November 29

- WINTER WISHES: HOLIDAY COCKTAIL CELEBRATION
Friday Night Fever swept the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago (120 E. Delaware) Nov. 1 at the Service Club of Chicago’s Studio 123 Gala. Nearly 400 guests donned their best 70s-esque black-tie garb (think sequins, teased hair and jumpsuits) for the Studio 54-inspired bash, joining co-chairs Darby Hills, Heather Farley Ingram and Nina Mariano to celebrate 123 years of giving. Live and silent auctions with items like lunch with Splash columnist Jenny McCarthy got the party going, and later, guests moved to the dance floor, where pros from the Chicago Dance Studio helped them shake it to the sounds of the Al Sofia Band. The evening raised $450,000 to benefit various local charities, including Wings, Salt Creek Ballet and the Catholic Charities.

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 Service Club of Chicago, up to a total of $5,000. Up to $1,000 can be matched per individual donation.
Embrace fashion's dark side by sporting black leather, the bewitching trend that's become a closet mainstay over the last few seasons. We love high-shine finishes paired with rich red pouts and sky-high heels, but for a more classic look, try a matte leather dress with patent pumps. On the runway, Ann Demeulemeester accented her monochromatic outfits with black leather corset belts and structured blouses, while Gucci went all-out with tough-girl, Goth-inspired dresses. Don't be afraid to take risks by mixing textures or patterns — however you wear it, you'll leave other partygoers spellbound.
I asK jenny
JENNY McCARTHY OFFERS UNCONVENTIONAL WISDOM

CHICAGO CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: A MISSION TO SAVE REAL PLAY GALA
UP, UP AND AWAY

Supporters of the Chicago Children's Museum saved the day at the superhero-themed gala, held Nov. 2 at the Navy Pier Grand Ballroom (600 E. Grand). More than 600 guests accessorized their black-tie attire with capes, cuffs and masks before enjoying cocktails and dinner and bidding on live-auction items, including a trip to France and tickets to the Emmy Awards. The evening raised more than $800,000 to support the Museum's mission of improving children's lives by creating a community where play and learning connect.

The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match donations to the Chicago Children's Museum up to a total of $25,000. Up to $1,000 can be matched per individual donation.

Left: Alex and Devanee Washington

CHICAGO COMMONS' POUR OUT YOUR HEART FOR COMMONS
COMMON BONDS

Guests sipped their way around the world Nov. 2 at Chicago Commons' annual Pour Out Your Heart for Commons fundraiser. More than 300 attendees at the East Bank Club (500 N. Kingsbury) joined co-chair Daniel Brosk in toasting to the 119-year-old nonprofit with wine samplings from five different stations — Tiny Bubbles, Pure Italian, Views of Burgundy, Bordeaux-Inspired and Big Reds — curated by Southern Wine and Spirits of Illinois' William Gibson. Later, guests bid on silent auction items and continued the party at Municipal Bar Dining Co. (216 W. Ohio). More than $100,000 was raised to support Commons' work in child development, youth services, adult education and care for seniors and adults with disabilities.

The Sun-Times was the media sponsor of this event.

READ JENNY'S BLOG AT CHICAGOSPLASH.COM

Dear Jenny,

I have a good friend who is driving me absolutely insane. She comes to me over and over again for advice about her relationship, which is going nowhere. He refuses to commit. She needs to move on in the worst way.

I tell her the same thing every time — that if she's unhappy, she should leave, and he's obviously not going to change, since it's been nearly nine years of the same unhappiness.

I'm getting sick of listening to myself talk about this, and I'm contemplating telling her that if she refuses to do anything to better her situation, I don't want to hear about it anymore. Is that too harsh? What should I do?

— Helen, Nashville

Jenny says: It sounds like your friend really needs someone to talk to, and unfortunately, she is making her relationship your problem, too. Part of being a good friend is to be there for your friends, but on the flip side, it's not fair for her to seek your advice time after time and put you in an awkward position. I imagine it's quite frustrating for you to see your friend unhappy, and your suggestion for her to leave the relationship seems sound.

Sometimes when friends have problems, the solution appears to be so simple. In this case, your friend is unhappy and you want her to leave her boyfriend. However, if you've ever been in the receiving end of that advice, you may understand it's not always that easy. Perhaps instead of offering advice, you can help empower your friend. Suggest a self-help book or activities that may give her the confidence to move on. In the end, you cannot do it for her. She has to make that decision on her own. However, given the fact that you have been there for her, I do not think it is harsh to establish a boundary on this topic. Reassure her that you care about her, but also make her aware that you are frustrated with her situation.

Sometimes being a great friend is being an honest friend. Good luck!
For Rene De Leon, launching The Dawson was a completely new challenge. "The type of food here is different," explains the executive chef of the new River West restaurant. "I've been at Michelin-starred restaurants for most of my career — I need to figure out how to use what I've learned to make this a cool place and a special place to come at the same time."

Powerhouse hospitality veterans Billy Lawless (Henri, The Gage) and Branko Palikuca (Topaz, Amber) knew that De Leon (Next, Alinea) would be up to the challenge, and along with cocktail connoisseur Clint Rogers (The Gage, Graham Elliot), the dream team created The Dawson, a high-level, 350-seat space where hospitality is paramount, and where each section — and menu item — lends itself to a vastly different dining experience.

That experience can include cocktail pairings from Rogers' comprehensive list, carefully crafted to complement each flavor in De Leon's menu. For instance, the Verdita Mixta ($10), with tequila, mezcal, pineapple, lime, herbs, jalapeño and cucumber, pairs perfectly with the pork belly tacos ($6), crunchy shells drizzled with a spicy salsa crema. In keeping with the restaurant's all-encompassing theme, the menu includes everything from wood-grilled whole fish of the day ($28) served over a Vietnamese som tam salad to roast chicken ($21) with chunks of apple and soft cushions of ricotta gnocchi.

Here's what else you'll find at The Dawson:

Chef stats: De Leon most recently served as the sous chef at Next after working at Alinea. Prior to that, he staged at Noma in Copenhagen, Denmark, and El Celler de Can Roca in Girona, Spain.

The vibe: Stripped-down and industrial. Both the decor and the name pay homage to Chicago during the Industrial Revolution, particularly Dawson Brothers, a 19th-century fireplace mantel company once located on Halsted. Materials like denim, salvaged brick and timber are found throughout the space, and the foyer boasts an exposed brick wall, a mosaic of windowpanes and scattered chandeliers.

Step outside: The 150-seat, fenced-in patio is almost a restaurant within a restaurant. It's got a full bar, communal picnic tables and a lounge. One section of the patio floor is heated, and a stone fireplace provides further warmth on chilly nights.

Must-try dish: The chicken-fried NY strip ($32) received a lot of pre-opening hype, and for good reason. It's a tender, prime steak with a spicy, crispy coating, served with country gravy, collard greens, mashed potatoes and a honey biscuit.

A sip of soda: In addition to the thoughtfully crafted liquor, beer and wine menus, The Dawson hired soda jerk Dalton Finney to create a rotating menu of refreshing sodas. Root beer and cola will be mainstays, and Rogers will occasionally spike the sodas, like he does in the Luchini ($10), made with cherry phosphate, amaro, Luauaro Aperitivo, and Carpano Antica.

730 W Grand, (312) 243-8955; The-dawson.com

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LOIS COMES TO LIFE

'Family Guy' star Alex Borstein sketches her ideal day in her hometown

BY ZAK STEMER

You might not recognize her at first glance, but chances are you're familiar with Alex Borstein's voice — or at least one of her many accents. The Deerfield native has lent her pipes to shows like "Robot Chicken," "The Cleveland Show" and, most notably, "Family Guy," starring as the often-bossy Lois Griffin alongside notable voice actors Seth Green, Julie Kavner and close friend Seth McFarlane. Now, she's stepping out of the recording booth and in front of the camera with a starring role on HBO's new series "Getting On."

In the dark comedy, which follows several nurses who work in a geriatric wing, Borstein plays Dawn Forchette, the division's head nurse. It's a role she's wanted since she discovered the original British version of the series. "I immediately fell in love," says Borstein, 40. "It wasn't until many moons later [when the show was revamped for the U.S.] that I got this email saying they had an audition for me. I said, 'Oh my God, it's for "Getting On!" I sort of freaked out."

The show presents a welcome change of pace for Borstein, allowing her to explore new aspects of acting. "There's so much pathos and heart," she says. "One minute you're having a broad comedic moment, and the next you find yourself choking up because it's very real." But taking on the new role doesn't mean she's leaving "Family Guy" behind. "With "Family Guy," we have the amazing ability to go anywhere and do anything. I can play multiple characters — we can go to the moon one episode. They both afford me different opportunities to try things," Borstein says.

For fans of the show looking for a preview of what's to come, Borstein is quick to share some big news. "We have a crossover episode with 'The Simpsons' that will be next year's premiere," she says, explaining that the Griffins will end up in Springfield. "It was a surreal dream to show up at that table read."

Borstein is keeping just as busy in her roles as wife and mother of two young children. "I hate reading the same interviews over and over with parents talking about how hard it is to balance and yada yada," Borstein says. "It's what I do! It's showbiz, baby. You've gotta have a village. I have no qualms about asking for help when I need it." Although that dry wit is what's made Borstein successful, she admits it's created some off-color moments for her children. "My kids are little mirrors," she says, relaying a tale about accidentally letting a crude insult slip in front of her 5-year-old son. "I convinced him that I was saying 'juice bag.' Now he calls everyone at school 'juice bag,' Mother of the Year right here." Here, the funny family gal spends a day back in her hometown.

"Getting On" premieres Sunday, Nov. 24 at 9 p.m. on HBO.

10 A.M.
The morning starts on a sweet note as the actress heads to the Original Pancake House (22 E. Bellevue) for a Dutch Baby.

NOON
Borstein goes to Soldier Field (1410 Museum Campus) for her "favorite thing to do in the world": see a Bears game.

3:30 P.M.
Her son Barnaby is obsessed with space, so Borstein takes him to the Adler Planetarium (1300 S. Lake Shore).

6 P.M.
The family chows down on deep-dish pizza at Lou Malnati's (805 S. State) or Giordano's (730 N. Rush).

8 P.M.
To cap off the night, Borstein heads to the Music Box Theatre (3733 N. Southport) for a documentary. Currently playing: "The Trials of Muhammad Ali."
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FUR & M更多关于故事的细节和资金支持

PARKS
CHICAGO"
S

eeing her in a sprawling
Gold Coast residence,
sitting in the (literal) lap of
luxury, it’s hard to believe
that two months ago
Josephina, a shy black-and-
white terrier mix, was struggling to survive
on the streets of Greece. But every dog has
its day – and last September, she was lucky
eight to be found by one of the country’s
foremost stray advocates: Paula Fasseas.

It’s not the first time the founder of
PAWS Chicago — the city’s beloved no-
kill animal shelter — has brought home a pup literally plucked from the streets while
on vacation. But she’s gone far beyond
the occasional rescue; this business-savvy
philanthropist has been the savior of thou-

sand of cats and dogs, while reducing the
number of euthanized pets in the city by
70 percent through spay/neuter programs
in low-income communities.

On Nov. 15, the organization will host
its biggest event of the year: the PAWS
Fur Ball, a pet-friendly, black-tie gala
where even the animals are encouraged to
dress up. Started by luxury
retailer Escada, the party
has grown over the last 12
years to host more than 700
guests and 150 canines at
the landmark Drake Hotel
(140 E. Walton). With celeb
supporters like Smashing
Pumpkins frontman Billy
Corgan donating a private dinner and
concert, PAWS hopes to soar past last
year’s $1 million mark, with all proceeds
benefiting its pet-saving services.

The whole operation began 16 years
ago, when Fasseas had an awakening.
She and her husband, founders of North
Community Bank, were vacationing on
the Greek island of Crete when a stray
terrier followed their daughter, Alexis, back
home. After learning the fate of Greece’s
stray dogs — according to Fasseas, they are
poisoned by farmers — the family decided
to add one more furry member, bringing
Pippen home to Chicago.

“I started reading all things dogs,” Fas-
seas remembers. “I started seeing articles
about dogs being killed in Chicago and I
was surprised. Why would shelters be killing
dogs? I didn’t see strays around here,
so I didn’t think that was an issue.” Fasseas
did some research at the city pound while
Alexis volunteered at a humane shelter,
and the two learned the troubling statistics
that spurred them to action: At the time,
more than 40,000 dogs in Chicago were
being put down each year.

Armed with this new information,
Fasseas set out with her two-pronged ap-
proach: Find homes for existing pets, and
spay/neuter animals to reduce the future
population.

Sixteen years later, she’s built PAWS
into the largest no-kill animal shelter in the
Midwest and one of the largest in the
nation. The organization gives medical
treatment and a guarantee of life to every
animal that enters its doors (only eutha-

nizing animals that a behaviorist has certi-
fi
ded as inherently violent or animals with
untreatable suffering). Between PAWS’
adoption, spay/neuter and vaccination
programs, 36,000 animals come through
during every year.

At its first event, PAWS had 26 dogs and
found 26 homes. Fasseas remembers: “The
next day, I had 50 calls to my office. People
saying, ‘That was fabulous, we want to help,
what’s the name of your group? We want to
volunteer.’” That was in 1997. In 2012, she
found homes for 5,606 cats and dogs.

Fasseas was at the forefront of a move-
ment to make stray dogs more desirable
to a purr-fectly loving public. Using classic
marketing tools, she decided to “rebrand”
his strays by hosting adoption
events in luxe retail stores like
St. John and Ralph Lauren,
swaddling adorable pups and
kittens in the labels’ upscale
reputations. Suddenly, PAWS
pets were a point of pride —
and adoptions soared. “Partner-
ing with luxury retail was
an amazing combination. Ralph Lauren
built a puppy bed out of mahogany and we
put these homeless puppies in it and they
got adopted like they were the most in-
demand item. It helped change that whole
image,” Fasseas says. Now, “It’s a badge
of honor saying ‘Oh, mine’s a rescue.’”

Through PAWS, Fasseas oversees 5,000
volunteers, 100 staffs and four veterinari-
ains. As any pet owner can attest, vet bills
have a way of adding up, so the organiza-
tion has a yearly budget of $7.5 million
(more than the city’s animal control bud-
get), raised entirely through philanthropy.
That’s why the Nov. 15 Fur Ball is such a
critical fixture on the PAWS calendar: It
raises 20 percent of the annual budget.

With the gala around the corner and
new projects on the horizon (PAWS will
be opening a Highland Park location in
2014), Fasseas is riding high. She’s on track
be opening a Highland Park location in
2014, Fasseas is riding high. She’s on track
to transform Chicago into a no-kill city in
the next three years. “We’re on our way,”
she says. “When you see a problem like
this that’s so soluble, I felt that we had to
to get people in the community doing great
things.” And for Fasseas, it’s been her goal
to lead by example, changing the world
four paws at a time.

PAULA’S PUPS
Since she started PAWS, Fasseas has been constantly taking in cats
and dogs, adopting or fostering them until they find loving homes.
She’s lost exact count, but says that she’s played mom to 250 to
30 four-legged friends. “Probably
more,” she laughs. Here are some of
ones that have stood out to
Chicago’s resident pet patron.

DAISY: Daisy was Fasseas’ first
pup, a beagle that her godfather
won in a golf game. “It went every-
where [with me],” she says. “My fa-
ther said, ‘There’s a doghouse, the
doog stays outside.’ The dog never
stepped foot in that doghouse. It
was in my bed from day one.”

KOUKLA: Fasseas fell head over
heels for the long-haired Chihuahua
when she saw her wandering
drive-in theater in Tucson. “She
was the sweetest thing, just like
a little doll,” Fasseas says. Which is
why she chose the name Koukla:
It’s Greek for “doll.”

PIPER: “Piper was from our first
adoption event,” Fasseas remem-
bers. “She had a cold and we were
afraid if we took her back to animal
care that we’d never see her again.
It was sort of a failed foster”

PAUL’S PUP

For a behind-the-scenes video
of our puppy-filled photo shoot,
as well as more photos, go to
Chicagosplash.com

MORE ONLINE

Fasseas and Josephina

LOVE MONEY

Paula Fasseas, founder of PAWS
so, on finding the driving force,
families to save the city’s pets
by Zak Steiner | Photos by Kirsten Miccoli

FUR BALL
Nov. 15, Drake Hotel,
140 E. Walton.
For tickets, visit
Furball.pawsevents.org.

PAWS

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Furball.pawsevents.org.

PAWS

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PAWS
Venture south to Hyde Park and you'll find a collision of campus life, Chicago history and a culturally rich community. The University of Chicago rubs shoulders with the Museum of Science & Industry, Jackson Park and Frank Lloyd Wright's famed Robie House. And when it comes to notable residents, you can't top the president. Although gems like La Petite Folie and Chant lend culinary cred, the neighborhood has lacked dining destinations with citywide appeal. Now, with an influx of top-notch restaurateurs and chefs heading to 53rd Street, Hyde Park is poised to be the next food-lover's must-visit neighborhood.

First up is A10 (1462 E. 53rd; A10hydepark.com), a labor of love from award-winning chef/owner Matthias Merges, which opened Nov. 5. Known for yakitori-inspired spot Yusho and craft cocktail haven Billy Sunday (both in Logan Square), Merges cites strong family connections to the university as one incentive for the location — along with untapped potential.

“We are in love with the historic architecture, the diversity of the community and its rich history in Chicago,” Merges says. “Hyde Park has been off the map for years regarding restaurants with a few exceptions. We feel the time is right to start a new business.”

The concept for A10 was inspired by Merges' explorations across Southern France and Northern Italy, and he wanted to pay homage to the coastal motorway connecting the two countries.

“We wanted to bring our travel experiences to a restaurant,” Merges explains. “For us, it’s important to do something simple, straightforward, delicious and accessible.”

Although the concept was born thousands of miles away, the food is locally driven, taking full advantage of seasonal produce from the Hyde Park Farmers Market, and the menu includes handmade pastas, pizzas and hearty meat entrees ranging from rabbit to duck, complemented by craft cocktails and elevated bar snacks.

But that's not all on Merges' Hyde Park plate: After the New Year, Yusho Hyde Park (1466 E. 53rd; Yusho-chicago.com) will open three blocks away, beckoning diners with twice-fried chicken, a “build your own steamed bun” menu and cocktails on tap. Though the original Yusho, named one of the best restaurants of 2012 by Food & Wine magazine, gained acclaim by serving yakitori with inventive twists on Japanese street food, the new location will emphasize fan favorites and maximize its smaller space with a

Above: A10 is the first of three high-profile restaurants to open in Hyde Park this fall and winter.

Right: A10's wood-fired snails with roasted pearl onion and a rosemary olive oil biscuit ($14)
DINING AND LIBATIONS | feature

Hyde Park will get another culinary boost in late winter with the opening of Promontory (1539 E. 53rd). Named for the scenic peninsula off Burnham Park, the ambitious project — helmed by owners Bruce Finkelman and Craig Golden and chef Jared Wentworth, the team behind Longman & Eagle in Logan Square and Thalia Hall in Pilsen — includes a concert space, bar and restaurant. The hearth-driven concept owes a debt to the stone fire pits bordering Promontory Point, where Finkelman and Wentworth found inspiration in the oldest form of cooking.

A large open-fire pit will be the focal point of the kitchen and guests will be able to see — and taste — the flames.

"There was a sensibility in the old days of Europe and the Mediterranean to sit and tell stories around the single hearth. It made it more family and community-oriented," Finkelman says. From a cooking standpoint, Wentworth, a Michelin-starred chef, embraces the idea of playing with fire.

"It's understanding the primordial working with fire and learning the ancient art of true roasting," he says. "You're doing what your forefathers did to prepare breads, vegetables and roasts. I'm just getting comfortable with cooking with fire. I've cooked my whole life and have campfires all the time. But this is grill master extreme."

When it comes to opening in Hyde Park, Chicago native Finkelman credits the University of Chicago's efforts to attract new business, from restaurants to retail.

"It was wonderful to be part of what they're doing and to see these areas being revitalized," he says. "Hyde Park is such a beautiful area and every time I went, I always wanted to spend more time there. Now I'll have the opportunity."

As more culinary talent migrates south, there's a palpable energy in this historic district, and it's one area that the city — and food fanatics — should keep an eye on.

"There's a gut feeling that I didn't have for 10 years. Now it feels like enough is happening in the right direction," Merges says. "There's so much to come in the next year. It's time for Hyde Park."
Holly Haskell & Matthew Fitzhenry

BY KATERINA BIZIOS

Mingling at the Wit Hotel (201 N. State) with their respective friends on a rainy evening in July 2009, Holly Haskell and Matthew Fitzhenry struck up a casual conversation. The two soon recognized their considerable chemistry, and spent the rest of the evening party-hopping together. Though Fitzhenry was living in Michigan at the time, they decided to dive into a long-distance relationship. In 2011, work brought him to Chicago permanently, and he popped the question one year later by presenting Haskell with roses and 100 candles in their shared home. "I always plan everything to a T, but he was able to catch me by surprise," laughs Haskell, who promptly kicked wedding planning into high gear. The couple tied the knot in early fall in a non-denominational ceremony at the Westin Chicago River North (320 N. Dearborn), where their dog, Chipper, was on hand for photos. Upon arrival, guests received Champagne, cigars and glow sticks, which they waved at the end of the ceremony. Haskell and Fitzhenry kept the energy high at the reception, where they served mini sliders, sipped cocktails and danced the night away. "From beginning to end, it was a party," says Haskell.

Photography: Bowersock Photographers, Bowersockphoto.com
Gown: David's Bridal Collection, David's Bridal, 2749 N. Elston; Davidso-ridal.com
Groom's attire: Ralph Lauren, Men's Wearhouse, 112 S. State; Menswear-house.com
Cake: Oak Mill Bakery, 5753 W. Belmont; Oakmillbakery.com
"The cake was yellow, with buttercream frosting with one tier of lemon poppyseed cake and raspberry preserves, and another tier of almond cake with fudge frosting. It was amazing!"
Florist: Natural Beauties Floral, 212 N. Sangamon, Naturalbeautiesfloral.com
You are forever in my heart, Charles. See you on the other side.

Love always, Rochelle
On the menu

Long before we started snapping restaurant dishes and posting on social media — and more than a hundred years before the artful photographs of Nathan Myhrvold’s “Modernist Cuisine” set a new standard in food photography — what and how people ate figured as a rich focus for American painters. Starting this week, the Art Institute of Chicago exhibits a taste for the subject with “Art and Appetite: American Painting, Culture and Cuisine,” running through Jan. 27.

Though many of these images can be appreciated simply as sensuous displays, there was often a wealth of meaning in the composition. The groaning board, for example, was a self-satisfied depiction of wealth, while the rendering of a decanter could outrage a man of the temperance movement. Whether five-star establishments or greasy spoons, restaurant scenes were often the framework for social commentary. And once Andy Warhol and Claes Oldenburg came along, food imagery derived its potency from the realm of advertising and the realities of post-war consumption.

The still life, of course, is one of the most common formats for depicting food. For Americans in the 18th and 19th centuries, such paintings “afforded pride in American products, and America’s standing in the mercantile world,” says exhibition curator Judith Barter. But she suggests that some paintings, such as James Peale’s “Still Life: Balsam Apple and Vegetables,” may express another agenda. “In this still life there is a long, warty, cucumber-like fruit called a balsam pear, and it is poisonous,” Barter says. “It was used as a border for orchards at Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello. I think Peale was joining the debate about poisoning the Garden of Eden. As early as 1819, former President James Madison lectured Americans on the misuse of their land, exhorting them to plow under last year’s harvest remains for fertilizer, to rotate fields and crops.”

Thanksgiving, of course, has long been ideal for depicting American foodways. But not every picture of the holiday is warm and fuzzy. “Roy Lichtenstein’s turkey is sterile and looks simply like a newspaper supermarket ad, questioning this symbol and what it means to us,” Barter says. “Alice Neel paints a bird thawing in the sink with visceral reality and broad brushstrokes. She shows the great symbol as a rather unattractive object and said that Thanksgiving is a great day for everybody but the bird!”

By Thomas Connors
The 'Hostages' star on the suspenseful series, refusing a stunt double and supporting Obama

BY LIZ CROKIN

On his new show "Hostages," Tate Donovan is attacked, shot and even undergoes surgery — but he insists he has no stunt double. "It's just me," he says. Donovan, 50, plays Brian Sanders, a man held hostage in his own home by a rogue FBI agent (Dylan McDermott) who wants Brian's wife, Dr. Ellen Sanders (Toni Collette), to assassinate the president when she operates on him. The plot of the high-stakes CBS series captivates even the A-list cast. "Executive producer Jeffrey Nachmanoff is a smart guy," Donovan says. "We all look forward to each script as we come in."

Donovan says he knew he wanted to be an actor at age 4, but didn't start acting until college. Fans will recall his career taking off in the '90s, when he starred in "48 Hours," "The O.C.," "Damages" and "Deception." Today, despite the occasional bruise, Donovan is still a heartthrob — and he's thrilled to be a part of "Hostages." "I'm from right outside the city, and most of my family is nearby," says the New Jersey native. "I ride my bike into Brooklyn every day, and thank God I get to do what I do."

Head games: "Yikes ... I feel like a bad actor. I didn't do much to prep for this role except work with my acting coach, Kim Gillingham. [She] asks her students to keep a dream journal, and we work in kind of a Jungian way toward connecting ourselves to the character. It sounds trippy, but I love it."

Role call: "Brian has an uncanny resemblance to the actor Tate Donovan — only older. No, I have a hard time describing characters I play. I just do my best — but his situation is pretty terrible.""

Coming up: "The plot starts to open up and become less about the family and about the overarching motives of why Duncan has gone to such lengths to take us captive. Although, we have no idea what's going to happen. We just shot episode 11, so we are just a few episodes ahead of viewers."

The president's man: "I visited all of the battleground states [campaigning for Obama] for both '08 and '12. I worked on the documentary 'By the People' on HBO and got to know the president and his campaign staff a little. I thought to myself, 'I have to do everything I can to get and keep this man in office.' It's an honor to have been a small part of it all, and I couldn't be prouder of the president. I think he's amazing."

Watch "Hostages" Mondays at 9 p.m. on CBS.
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-Sarah Jordan
Pastry Chef at GT Fish & Oyster - BOKA
Watch Sarah’s insider shopping and prep tips at marianos.com

SHOP WELL. EAT WELL. LIVE WELL.
Beyond star power, what makes a celebrity house a slam dunk?

BY MADELINE NUSSE

When Michael Jordan's North Shore home hits the auction block this month, one bidder will get a little closer to the legend by taking up residence behind the number 23 gates at 2700 Point Lane in Highland Park. But as the stardust settles, what will a buyer find in 56,000-square-feet of living space?

"It lives like a comfortable home," says Baird & Warner broker Katherine Malkin (call 312-981-2308). Keep in mind, she notes, the high footage number includes everything: the home, a 15-car garage, three-bedroom guest house, gym, indoor basketball court and pool pavilion. "There's not much sense of all that inside. When you walk in the front door, you see the living room, dining room. It feels like a comfortable family space."

According to Malkin, Jordan wanted it that way. A 2011 rehab softened the interior behind the austere modern facade. The pro baller also added a tennis court, chipping green, stocked fishing pond and a grassy knoll that could be a playground or croquet court.

With the additions, Malkin claims, a buyer will get twice what he pays. She says Jordan sunk double the original $29 million asking price into the residence. "It's a joy-of-living thing," believes Malkin. "Once you get to a certain point in life, you build a home you love and don't expect to get money out of it."

Lest that not allay the high price (while there's no reserve, a bidder must cough up a $250,000 deposit to even qualify), good old-fashioned bragging rights might help: "There isn't any guy whose heart doesn't palpitate when he sees that basketball court," Malkin says.

For more high roller homes on the market, visit Chicagosplash.com.
A slice of life

Giordano's CEO Yorgo Koutsogiorgas (deep) dishes on the foods that flavor his days

“The world-renowned chef and owner of El Bulli’s recipes of the wonderful meals that he prepared for his staff. This book offers not only great recipes for delicious dishes, but a subtle lesson on how to take care of the people who take care of your customers.”

1. Ferran Adrià: The Family Meal, $23.11, Barnes & Noble, 1130 N State, Barnesandnoble.com
2. Millennium Park Coffeebar: Intelligentsia coffee starts at $3, 53 E. Randolph; Intelligentsiacoffee.com
3. Giordano’s: Northside Italian beef sandwich, $8.95, Giordano’s locations citywide; Giordanos.com
4. Siena Tavern: Pasta in a Jar, $22, 51 W. Kinzie, Sienatavern.com
5. Bavette’s Bar & Boeuf: steak frites, $23, 218 W. Kinzie; Bavetteschicago.com
6. The Bristol: Roasted half chicken, $22, 2152 N. Damen, Thebristolchicago.com
7. Mariano’s Fresh Market: locations citywide; Marianos.com
8. Glazed and Infused: old-fashioned doughnut, $2.50, 13 W. Fulton Market; Goglazed.com
9. Mariano’s: combo meal, $10.50, Giordano’s locations citywide; Giordanos.com

“Tender and juicy thin-sliced beef, cheese and sweet peppers, baked in the Giordano’s legendary pizza dough with plenty of dipping gravy.”

“Best presentation and taste for a housemade pasta is Siena Tavern’s Pasta in a Jar.”

“I like simply prepared foods with intense but balanced flavors. The Bristol’s roasted half-chicken with dill spaetzle and crunchy salad always satisfies.”

“Should we talk about steak? Bavette’s Bar & Boeuf offers hard-to-match flat iron steak frites. In a city that prides itself on quality steakhouses, this is the place to enjoy red meat.”

“Classic stuffed pizza (my favorite is sausage), a harvest salad (above) and a bottle of sparkling water, all for $10.”

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2014 Toyota's Corolla is all-new ... again

BY ARV VOSS
Motor Matters

Corolla is the best-selling car on the planet. For 2014, the Toyota Corolla enters its 11th generation as an all-new model ... and is truly a global product being sold in 154 countries.

The Corolla delivers an unexpected exterior that is both expressive and chiseled, displaying a more taut design with athletic proportions. The wheels are stretched further to the four corners while featuring shorter overhangs front and rear. Styling showcases a more tapered look for a more dramatic expression.

Sleek surfaces are complemented by the aerodynamic LED headlamp assemblies. Door handles are integrated into the body, aligning with the side profile character line that spans the length of the door surfaces.

The new C-pillar features a "faster" longer sloping angle that blends to the rear deck in a bolder fashion.

Two different gauge clusters differentiate and distinguish models. Corolla L, LE and LE ECO gauges appear with three gauges, while the Corolla S model comes with two gauges separated by an information panel. All trims offer a base, Plus and Premium equipment levels.

Two engines are offered for the 2014 Toyota Corolla. Both are 1.8-liter, 16-valve four-cylinder units with Dual Independent VVT-i and electronic fuel injection. One engine delivers 132 horsepower and 128 lb.-ft. of torque, appearing in L, LE and S grades. The other version of the 1.8L powers the LE ECO and generates 140 horsepower and 126 lb.-ft. of torque. Four transmissions are offered, depending on the model trim.

I drove the 2014 Corolla S Plus model with the six-speed manual transmission, which sported a Blue Crush metallic exterior and a Black interior. The base price was set at $19,700 with a final sticker total of $22,870 after adding the Moonroof and Driver's Convenience Packages. I also piloted the Corolla LE ECO Premium grade finished outside in Blizzard Pearl and the inside in Black.

The 2014 Toyota Corolla is truly elevated well above its predecessors in terms of styling and visual appeal, equipment levels, value, comfort, function and versatility.

Ride comfort was above average for a compact car and handling attributes bordered on sporty. The manual gearbox took some getting used to at the outset, with the clutch engagement being a little tall. The CVT actually provided a more enjoyable experience on the LE ECO.

Acceleration, which is on the low end of the spectrum, seemed adequate, but both powerplant versions would benefit from more power, perhaps best generated by turbocharging. The 1.8-liter four-banger makes vehicle occupants aware of its presence when under load, and passing on a grade requires full throttle, with the pedal pressed all the way to the floor to take care of business. The LE ECO grade with the CVT transmission actually seemed to perform better than its S Plus stable mate - the few extra horses were definitely appreciated.

This latest Toyota Corolla fills the role of affordable, comfortable, compact transportation quite well, and it will no doubt continue to reign, certainly as one of the best.

Editor: Paul Kelma • pkelma@stmedianetwork.com | Design: Gina Galinis | Director Automotive Advertising: Terry Boyle • tboyle@suntimes.com
### New 2013 Subaru Impreza 2.0i Sedan

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**NEW 2013 SUBARU IMPREZA 2.0i SEDAN**

**NEW 2014 SUBARU LEGACY 2.5i SEDAN**

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<td>N20776</td>
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<td>$2750 plus tax, title, doc fee and 1st mos. payment</td>
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<tr>
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### SUV's / TRUCKS

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<td>2007 LEXUS</td>
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### SEDANs

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<tr>
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#CV14359
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Time for a restart

Empty-nesters and Lake Chapin Shores make a good match

The kids are gone (or going soon) and many empty-nesters are using their newfound freedom to re-evaluate their priorities and increasingly making the transition to active but low-maintenance living.

To accommodate this change of lifestyles, many are exchanging their house in the suburbs or city for a home in the country. They are seeking a more flexible, open floor plan and maintenance-free living in a secure community, surrounded by scenic views and plenty of options for activities they enjoy. All at a historically perfect time to take advantage of the best second/retirement home market they are likely to experience.

The market share of people buying investment and second homes has reached its highest level since 2005, from a recent study by the National Association of Realtors. And 8 out of 10 second home buyers say now is the right time to buy. Mortgage rates are still at near record lows and pricing is right. Empty-nesters are acting now and seizing the opportunity to create a new lifestyle in an ideal second home market.

Sitting on a 600-acre all-sports lake in Michigan's Harbor Country, only 90 minutes from Chicago, Lake Chapin Shores combines lakeside living and easy maintenance into a dream vacation and/or retirement home. Weekends that were once spent with the kids turn into time for each other. This could be a quiet dinner at a local fine dining spot, an evening cruise on the quiet lake or a walk in the scenic countryside, a late-night swim in the heated pool, golf, a day at the local wineries, or bike-riding along country roads.

The quiet Lake Chapin Shores hideaway features 21 homesites, each with a different elevation and panoramic views, direct lake access, a variety of floor plan choices from 1,300 to 3,400 square feet and 12 construction design options geared to convenient, hassle-free living.

Homeowners create their home with the features that accommodate their lifestyles. Each spacious home is built with close cooperation between builder and buyer, to create living space that maximizes lake and/or woodland views and follows the interests and needs of the homeowner. Each of the available models includes options for outside color, customized open floor plans, gas or wood-burning fireplace, cherry or maple cabinetry, natural granite countertops and energy efficient appliances. Owners choose a combination of screened three-season porches and expansive decks.

Materials and equipment are high quality, selected for quiet efficiency, durability and the need for little or no maintenance. Maintenance free decking, for example, never needs staining or sealing. Landmark Architectural Shingles deliver a cottage style weathered wood roofing look with a 30 year warranty. Pella windows are energy efficient. Cast iron drops between first and second levels insulate sound between floors. Natural cedar, pre-stained siding in the owner's choice of colors requires little maintenance.

Owners in this highly successful community enjoy privacy with spectacular views, boating and water sports, as well as the convenience of community services, including year-round maintenance of the heated pool, docks and roadways, common area landscaping and concierge options to prepare the home and/or boat for a family reunion, holiday party or other special event.

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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Katie Liddell and Garrett Hoffmann

Katie is originally from Farmington, N.Y., and lived in Gurnee before moving to Palatine, where she and Garrett now reside. Garrett is from the Winfield and Wheaton areas of Illinois. The couple met through mutual friends while attending college and tied the knot Sept. 21 with a ceremony at St. Thomas of Villanova in Palatine and a reception following at Meridian Banquets in Rolling Meadows.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON MCKINNEY PHOTOGRAPHY

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Cooking school at the Osthoff
Take your culinary skills to the next level

By Anne Thompson

Whether you are just discovering your culinary talent or you are a gifted home cook looking to inspire your inner-chef, L'école de la Maison can help you understand the basics of French cooking as you perfect your skills in a cooking class. The courses offered at the Osthoff Resort's L'école de la Maison range from short sessions to detailed two-day classes, so anyone with a taste for the finer things can find a fitting course to enjoy on vacation.

Workshops

These 2-3 hour classes review the basics of fine cooking with easy-to-prepare items that are sure to impress. Classes include Christmas Cookies and Truffles, Pasta and Sauces, European Brunch and La Creperie, which will show you how to make perfect French crepes for a variety of savory and sweet applications.

Single-day course

For a more intensive class with some advanced methods included, you might take a one-day course, which will last for 4-5 hours. These courses focus on single cuisines such as French Bistro, Burgundy Cuisine and Italian Trattoria. Single-day classes can also help you brush up on your skills before the holidays with classes for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners.

Two-day courses

If you truly love the culinary arts, you can tackle some of the toughest items in French cookbooks after a two-day course at L'école de la Maison. The Artisan Breads and Breakfast Bakery courses both span two days with a 2-3 hour workshop on day one and a more involved 4-5 hour class on day two.

To explore all of the gourmet cuisine and culinary opportunities surrounding the Osthoff Resort, contact the cooking school at 866-534-9817, ext. 830 or visit www.cookingschoolatosthoff.com. For general information about Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, call 877-355-4278.

Sponsored content by WeekAway. For more information on these or other destinations, visit WeekAway.com and follow @WeekAway on Twitter.
Why choose the Osthoff Resort for your next business meeting?

by Anne Thompson

Planning a corporate event can be a stressful task, but with the Osthoff Resort at Elkhart Lake, your retreat or meeting will be something to look forward to. Not only is the Osthoff Resort a beautiful vacation destination, but it has been home to a number of conferences and events with groups ranging from 10 to 1,000. Meeting facilities are being expanded to accommodate larger groups and should be completed before Fall 2014.

Retreat style events
You can add some fun and include team building in your agenda with a wealth of activities to enjoy around the lake including golf, kayaking, and fine dining. You might also consider offering meeting attendees a day at the acclaimed Aspira spa for a little relaxation after several days in the conference room.

Excellent facilities
Of course no corporate retreat would be complete without state-of-the-art conference facilities and on-site technical services. These are included in corporate packages at the Osthoff along with comfortable guest suites and wireless internet access to facilitate a successful event.

If you want to explore more details of meeting planning with the Osthoff Resort, connect with Sales Administrative Assistant, Judy Fihn at 920-876-5820.

Elkhart Lake has something to offer everyone, from adventure-seeking travelers to corporate professionals in search of a unique venue for upcoming meetings. For general information about Elkhart Lake, visit www.elkhartlake.com or call 877-355-4278.

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

St. Charles, IL
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visitstcharles.com

Wheaton, IL
Wheaton Antique Market
Nov. 16
zurkopromotions.com

Galena, IL
Nouveau Wine Weekend
Nov. 22-24
visitgalena.org

Lebanon, IL
Victorian Holiday Weekend
Nov. 22-24
victorianholiday.org

Cedarburg, WI
Festive Friday Eves
Nov. 29
cedarcreeksettlement.com

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Cibo Racconto’s Italian family fare has modern flair

BY LEE A. LITAS
Dining Columnist

N
eighborhood joints by
definition should act as a second home. The atmosphere should be warm and welcoming, the food should be made fresh and patrons should always be made to feel part of the family. That is all owners Lee Mugnolo and wife Deanna wanted for their Cibo Racconto when they built it in Rosemont two years ago.

Using their own family recipes handed down through the generations to create updated lunches and dinners, they offer “a true family affair” that reflects their Italian heritage.

As premier Midwest importers of Racconto Italian foods since 1958 that range from olive oils to pasta, sauces to jardinière, and even fresh vegetables and cheeses, the Mugnolos know a thing or two about quality products. Prior to Cibo, they opened Trattoria Peppino in Elmwood Park, Cucina Paradiso in Oak Park, and Nonno Pino in Edison Park.

Now their only focus is Cibo Racconto, which literally means “the story of food” in Italian. More than 80 percent of the goods used in the restaurant’s dishes are from the same Racconto products sold in stores.

“As a neighborhood restaurant,” said owner Lee Mugnolo, “we want our guests to come in and see our passion for food and enjoy the same type of dishes that we prepare in our home.”

The casual dining menu includes family classics like the signature Cibo puffs. The flash-fried bite-sized balls of rolled zucchini dipped in a WLngoing tomato-cream “vodka-style” sauce ($1.75). The aromatic muffin-shaped goodies are made from pizza dough and stuffed with choice of sautèd spinach and provolone, roasted red pepper and sweet onion, pepperoni and ricotta cheese, or Italian sausage and mozzarella ($1.75).

The aromatic muffin-shaped goodies are made from pizza dough and stuffed with choice of sautèd spinach and provolone, roasted red pepper and sweet onion, pepperoni and ricotta cheese, or Italian sausage and mozzarella ($1.75).

Family style dining is available on Sundays: a 4-course meal for four people is $36. Deanna Mugnolo makes Cibo’s sweets by hand every morning. Try the sumptuous caramel and roasted apple slices with melt-in-your-mouth icing ($8); the ooey-gooey magic bars with chocolate chips and toasted coconut flakes ($2.25); or the tangy lemon cookies ($1) which are her signature treat. Cibo also offers more than a dozen flavors of homemade gelato ($1.99/small; $3.99 medium; $5.99 large).

“I hope that when our guests come in they see it as a family affair; they see our passion for food and hopefully they leave happy,” said Mugnolo.
It's been almost 50 years since Dave Davies founded the Kinks and ushered in a new sound by slicing up a speaker cone on his amp for "You Really Got Me."

The guitarist/composer has kept busy since then — with the exception of a decade-plus hiatus after the '80s — recording actively with the Kinks through the early '80s and then releasing numerous solo albums including his latest, "I Will Be Me" on Cleopatra Records. He will perform songs from the new album and hits from the past Nov. 18 at the City Winery in Chicago before appearing Nov. 19 in the intimate setting of Evanston's S.P.A.C.E.

Q: What can people expect from your show?
A: The show's going to be a mix, with some new songs, some old songs, some Kinks songs. It's a rock show, of course, but there will also be some more sensitive songs.

Q: Do you still enjoy playing live?
A: Oh yeah, I really love it. And of course I'm promoting my new album this year, so there's a good reason to go out and do it.

There was time during the '80s when I started getting a little tired of doing the same songs every time. But after you've been away from it for a bit, it starts to be fun again. You can't beat playing live, really. That's where rock 'n' roll lives.

Q: Tell us a little about the new album.
A: I guess it's kind of about me. My philosophy and my humor. How I saw the world then and how I see the world now. The first song I wrote for it was called "Living in the Past," and that kind of set the tone for the album. The nostalgic character of that first song basically turned into the character of the album.

I also wanted to do a tribute to "You Really Got Me," so I wrote a song called "Little Green Amp," which is nostalgic about that time, but with a bit of an edge to it.

Actually, the album starts way back at the beginning, when the Kinks started, but it also includes more current issues and attitudes. There's a song called "In the Main Frame," which is about the future, really, about how we're getting so drawn into technology. A guy actually ends up stuck inside a computer, which is the direction we all seem to be going in with social networking and Facebook and Twitter.

Q: You've been very productive the last 10 years after a long time without putting out an album. Why are you making so much new music now?
A: I don't know really. (Laughs) You just do it when it feels right. Sometimes it goes like that. You go through a period when you can't think of anything and then, all of a sudden, you get a rush of ideas. I think I was just finally inspired.

Q: How do you feel about next year being the 50th anniversary of the Kinks?
A: It's fabulous. It seems unbelievable that it's going to be 50 years. It seems like it was only yesterday in some ways. Though the music speaks for itself, I think. It's stood the test of time and I still love playing it.
Looking for fun? Check out our Top Five picks for the weekend's best bets.

Get up and go

Your guide to the weekend and beyond

Every Thursday

Magic and music bring 'Brigadoon' to life

BY MYRNA PETLICH
For Sun-Times Media

Crescendo Park Ensemble is heading to the Scottish Highlands with the Lerner and Loewe classic musical, "Brigadoon." It is the tale of two vacationing New Yorkers who stumble upon a village that only appears once every 100 years.

"It's my favorite show of all times," said Eric Scott Whealdon of Forest Park, who directs and also plays New Yorker Tommy. "I'm kind of an old romantic," he admitted.

Whealdon described his character as "well-to-do. He stays with the 'in crowd.' He's got a good job, a good woman."

Still something is missing in his life. "He thinks he has everything going but he's not satisfied," Whealdon said. It doesn't take long for Tommy to become captivated by a lass from the mysterious town of Brigadoon named Fiona.

Mary Jo Christenson of Elmwood Park plays Meg, a milkmaid who takes a shine to Tommy's traveling companion Jeff. "She's trying to seduce him," Christenson revealed. "She's assertive and definitely not shy. She's fun to be around."

The actor is enjoying appearing in "Brigadoon," her twelfth show with Crescendo, because, "It's a love story but it's also got some humor in it. The songs are really good and the music is spectacular — we've got a 10-piece orchestra."

Christenson sings two humorous numbers. In "The Love of My Life," "I'm telling how many men I've been with," she laughingly noted. She relates her parents' equally colorful life in "My Mother's Wedding Day."

This is the fifth Crescendo show for Jeff Eichholz of Oak Park, who plays Charlie. "He was away at college being a bachelor and now he's going to marry Bonnie Jean and settle down," Eichholz said.

Eichholz's character sings, "I'll Go Home with Bonnie Jean."

"It's me talking about how I used to be a roving lad. I was kind of a player," the actor said. He also sings the lovely ballad, "Come to Me, Bend to Me."

River Grove actor Rick Pyzyna plays Mr. Lundie. "He is the old schoolmaster who knows the story why Brigadoon only appears every 100 years," Pyzyna said. "He has a highly logical mind."

Pyzyna said he is very comfortable doing character roles. "In the sketch comedy group I'm in, I do the characters," he explained. Mr. Lundie is primarily a non-singing part although the character does join the chorus at times. He also participates in an exciting chase scene when there's a threat to the magical spell that causes Brigadoon to disappear into the mist for a century at a time.

Mr. Lundie also plays a part in the musical's happy ending.

The play debuted on Broadway in 1947 but director Whealdon has moved his New York characters to the present day. Never fear, though, the villagers of Brigadoon stay firmly rooted in centuries past. And Whealdon promises that, in this production, the village of Brigadoon will indeed rise from the mist and disappear into it.
Kari Redmond wanted to learn more about the village where she works. “I'm new to Morton Grove,” said the recreation supervisor for the Morton Grove Park District. “I saw that none of our events catered to showcasing different ethnicities in this community.”

So she organized Passport to Morton Grove, a free event, 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23 at Prairie View Community Center, 6834 Dempster.

“We are going to have six or seven booths showcasing different countries,” Redmond said. “Each of our recreation supervisors researched different countries. They will be providing crafts or games for each country they are showcasing.”

Three ethnic groups will entertain: the Niles West High School Latino Club, McNulty Irish Dancers and Isla Pacifika Dancers, a Polynesian dance company.

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

YOU'LL BETTER WATCH OUT
... or you might miss out on Breakfast with Santa, Saturday, Dec. 14 at the Howard Leisure Center Banquet Room, 6678 W. Howard St., Niles. Spaces fill quickly for the breakfast buffet and photo op with Santa. Seatings are 8:30-9:30 a.m., 10-11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Cost is $10 per person for residents, $12 for nonresidents.

For details, call (847) 967-6633 or go to wwwniles-parks.org.

SOUNDS DELICIOUS
You won't be eating “Surf and Turf,” even though that's the name of Sea Beast Puppet Company's music and humor-filled show that combines the fairy tales “Stone Soup” and “How the Whale Got His Throat.” It will be performed from 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 20 at Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights.

For details, call (708) 867-7828 or go to eisenhowerlibrary.org.

AN EARLY PRESENT
Families can enjoy a free Breakfast with Santa, Mrs. Claus & Elf, 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 7 at the Book Market at Hangar One, Glen Town Center, 2651 Navy Blvd., Glenview. Food will be catered by Eggsperience Restaurant. Reservations are required starting on Nov. 25.

For details, visit glentowncenter.com.
Survey says sliders, sausage and squash all great ingredient ideas

By Melissa Elsmo
Out of Mel's Kitchen

L ast week, with the impending Thanksgiving holiday on my mind, I took a quick survey on Facebook asking, “What are the four most important ingredients in your favorite Thanksgiving stuffing recipe?”

Lovers of sausage, celery and sage came out in full force, but many people proved that they are willing to break with tradition and suggested fast food burgers, sweet apples, zucchini, mushrooms, nuts and squash.

Riffing on the ingredients listed on my Facebook page, I've created a quartet of both creative and traditional Thanksgiving stuffing recipes to bring a variety of flavor to the holiday plate!

THE OUTLIER: WHITE CASTLE SLIDER STUFFING WITH APPLES AND LEEKS

More than a few stuffing lovers passionately proclaimed a drive-thru burger as their key stuffing ingredient! While this recipe embraces the unexpected, the resulting dish boasts a deceptively traditional flavor.

12-14 White Castle sliders (hold the pickles), chopped
Melt the butter over medium heat in a skillet. Add the celery and leeks and heat until softened. Season with salt and pepper and add the apple, rosemary and sage to the pan. Cook stirring frequently until apples are tender. Stir in the cranberries and allow the mixture to cool. Mix the cooled apple mixture with the diced burgers. Season the mixture with salt and pepper and transfer to a buttered baking dish. Cover and bake the stuffing at 375 for 45 minutes (uncover for the last 20 minutes).

The Change-Up: Corn Bread Stuffing with Chorizo, Poblano and Cilantro

A few nontraditional stuffing lovers suggested adding chorizo to sweet corn bread and combining with herbal cilantro and poblano peppers for a Latin spin.

8 ounces chorizo
1 large onion, chopped
2 garlic cloves
12 cups diced day-old corn bread
2 poblano peppers, roasted, peeled and diced
1/2-3/4 cup cilantro, chopped
1/2 cup pepitas
1/2 cup chicken stock

Cook the chorizo and onion in a large skillet until meat is cooked through and onions are softened. Add the garlic and sauté for 30 seconds. Drain well. Gently combine the chorizo mixture, corn bread, peppers, cilantro and pepitas in a large bowl. Moisten with the stock and turn into a buttered casserole dish. Cover and bake the stuffing at 375 for 45 minutes (uncover for the last 20 minutes).

THE CLASSIC: SOURDOUGH STUFFING WITH SAGE, SAGE AND ONION

These popular ingredients were highlighted most among the people in my survey, with sausage at No. 1. If you want to keep things traditional, this is the stuffing for you.

1 pound sage breakfast sausage
1 large onion, diced
4 celery stalks
4 ounces diced cremini mushrooms
1 teaspoon sage
1 teaspoon fennel seeds
1/2 teaspoon poultry seasoning
12 cups sourdough bread, cubed and dried
1/2 cup grated Parmigiano-Reggiano
no cheese
1/4 cup diced oil packed sun-dried tomatoes
2 eggs, beaten
1 cup chicken broth

Cook the sausage mixture until meat is cooked through and vegetables are soft. Add the sage, fennel, and poultry seasoning and mix well. Season with salt and pepper. Combine the sausage mixture, bread, cheese, tomatoes, eggs and chicken broth in a large bowl. Season the mixture with salt and pepper and transfer to a buttered baking dish. Cover and bake the stuffing for 30 minutes at 375. Uncover and continue baking for 40 minutes. Garnish with sage leaves and crumbled Parmigiano-Reggiano.

The Whimsical: Brioche Stuffing with Bacon and Eggs

1 bunch of scallions, sliced
1/4 cup of chicken stock

Cook the bacon in a medium skillet until crisp; drain on paper towels and crumble. Cook the red onion and green pepper in the bacon drippings until soft. Season with salt and pepper and drain well. Combine the bacon, vegetables, brioche, eggs and scallion in a mixing bowl and toss to combine. Season well with salt and pepper. Turn the mixture into a buttered casserole dish and drizzle lightly with the chicken stock. Bake uncovered about 30 minutes.

Any of these stuffings (except the bacon and egg offering) can be cooked in the bird. Just be sure the stuffing reaches 165 degrees.
GO CALENDAR
BY WRAPPORTS NEWS SERVICE

THURSDAY, NOV. 14

Patterson Glassworks
8 a.m.: Join a trip to Patterson Glassworks in Mundelein for a demonstration of hand-blown pumpkins followed by lunch at Mambo Italiano. Each guest will receive a hand-blown pumpkin to take home. Cost includes demonstration, transportation, pumpkin and lunch. Registration required. For adults ages 55 and up. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-662-3257, $70-$77.

Nightclub in the Afternoon
2 p.m.: Singer Mary Anne Riehl, a performer with Lawrence Welk and on the ABC radio network, performs songs from the 1920s through the 1940s accompanied by a tuxedo band. Eisenhower Public Library, 4633 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-886-7828.

Knitting for All Ages
3:30 p.m.: Learn the basics of knitting and crochet. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-687-5277.

Girls’ Night Out
5:30 p.m.: The Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation will be hosting a night of Pinterest-inspired DIY projects and tasty recipes. Must be 18 or older to attend. Prairie View Community Center, 6634 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-666-5522. $22-$54.

YA Quarter Quill: An After-Hours Hunger Games Event
6 p.m.: Students grades five to 12 will compete to be the final tribute left standing. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Dinner Murder Mystery Night
6 p.m.: The Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation will host a night full of suspense and delicious food. Guests will attempt to solve a crime which will occur during dinner by a mystery character. The guest who solves the mystery will receive a prize. Must be 18 or older to attend. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-666-5522. $22-$54.

Tim Clue
8 p.m.: The comic, WGN radio regular and co-founder of the production company Chicago Sitcom performs. Zanies Comedy Night Club Rosemont, 5377 Park Place, Rosemont. Call 847-819-0484. $35.

SUBMIT YOUR EVENT
To submit an event for consideration in print, visit www.pioneerlocal.com/submit-event 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.

SUNDAY, NOV. 17

Artisan Faire
9 a.m.: Jewelry, dyed clothing, terrariums, scarves, cards, fused glass, upcycled mittens, soaps, Judaica, cookbooks and other wares. Appetizers, food for purchase and a special fall root cooking demonstration by chef Laura Frankel also will be available. Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie. Call 847-675-0931. Free.

'Skokie: Invaded, But Not Conquered'
2 p.m.: Screening of Todd Whitman's original documentary, which explores the impact of the attempted neo-Nazi March of late 1970s. Reservations required. Additional screenings will take place Nov. 17 and Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. Illinois Holocaust Museum, 5033 Woods Drive, Skokie.

Live @ Lincolnwood: Banjos and Bagels Klaxon Concert
2 p.m.: Listen to the sounds of the Banjos and Bagels Band and nosh on bagels and corned beef. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-677-5277.

Crazy Talk: America’s Music Presents Country!
3 p.m.: One of Chicago’s most popular “new country” bands, Crazy Talk, plays both current country smashes, as well as classic hits. Come hear their versions of songs by artists, such as Shania Twain, Lady Antebellum and Little Big Town. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-673-7774. See GO CALENDAR. NEXT PAGE »
GO CALENDAR

Classical Vienna: Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert

The Discovery of Magic
7 p.m.: Chicago magic expert William Pack will reveal the colorful characters and adventures behind the history of magic. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-867-7828.

Harmonious Horizons
10:20 a.m.: A family music class that includes singing, dancing and playing instruments. For children ages 1 month to 5 years old with a caregiver. Class repeats at 11 a.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Story Time for All Ages
11:30 a.m.: Stories, songs and finger plays for the whole family. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

TUESDAY, NOV. 19

Bakers Square Lunch and Take-home Pie!
11:30 a.m.: Enjoy an afternoon of friends, lunch and baking. After lunch, guests will make a mini pie to take home. For ages 18 and older. Norridge Park, 4631 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge. Call 708-457-1244. $15-$17.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20

Sea Beast Puppet Company
6 p.m.: The "Surf and Turf" show combines classic tales with humor, music and puppets. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-867-7828.

Natural Gas
8 p.m.: The improvisational group takes a suggestion from the audience and turns it into a show. The Gift Theatre, 4802 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago. Call 773-283-7071. $5.

SATURDAY, NOV. 23

Let's Learn About Candy
9 a.m.: Children ages 3 to 12 will read stories about candy, count candies, create a candy themed craft and make a candy treat. Norridge Park, 4631 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge. Call 708-457-1244. $15-$20.

Candy Science
11 a.m.: Children ages 8 to 11 will learn about the science of sugar as they make chewing gum, fudge or lollipops. Norridge Park, 4631 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge. Call 708-457-1244. $29-$34.

SUNDAY, NOV. 24

Lincolnwood Turkey Trot
8:30 a.m.: The annual 5K/10K run or 5K fitness walk through Lincolnwood. Runners start at 8:45 a.m. Walkers start at 9 a.m. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Village of Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department scholarship fund which provides financial assistance to students not able to cover the cost of youth programs. Must be 18 or older to participate. Registration required. Proesel Park, 6900 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-966-5522. $40-$90.

14th Annual Northwestern Settlement Cherub Brunch Benefit
11 a.m.: The event features a gourmet breakfast buffet, games, live and silent auctions and more. The Settlement helps low-income families and individuals take personal responsibility and become self-sufficient. Park Ridge Country Club, 636 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-4579. $60.

SATURDAY, NOV. 30

Justin Moore
7 p.m.: The country singer will perform as part of his "Off the Beaten Path" tour. Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. Call 847-671-5100. $29.75-$49.75.

Holiday Party Open House
2 p.m.: Celebrate the holidays with festive treats and take a tour of the facility. Registration required. Norwood Crossing, 6016 N. Nina Ave., Chicago. Call 773-577-5323.
Mood-swinging 'Holiday' mixes raunch and religion

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Film Critic

It's a little confusing at times the way "The Best Man Holiday" mixes R-rated raunch with old-time religion, but just consider that part of its full-coverage entertainment package.

Written/director Malcolm D. Lee's sequel to his 1999 hit "The Best Man" might not quite be able to settle on whether it wants to scandalize you or sanctify you, make you laugh or make you sob, but it does a lively job of bouncing back and forth from one to the other.

In the 1999 film, aspiring novelist and dedicated bachelor Harper (Taye Diggs) pretty thoroughly botched his best-man duties by writing about an affair he'd had with the fiancé of his best friend, football star Lance (Morris Chestnut). Eventually, though, he managed to patch up most of the damage and show a little maturity by proposing to his girlfriend Robyn (Sanaa Lathan).

Now it's 15 years later and Harper has troubles of another sort. Robyn is pregnant, his latest book is a misfire and he's just been laid off from his teaching gig at NYU. His agent suggests asking his old friend Lance, who's become a superstar in the meantime, to let him write his biography. Despite Lance's lingering resentment about Harper's dalliance with his wife Mia (Monica Calhoun).

So Harper reluctantly decides to accept Mia's invitation to bring Robyn for a Christmas reunion with the rest of the over-achieving gang: sex-and-weed-crazed marketing maven Quentin (Terrence Howard), sleazy mean-girl TV star Shelby (Melissa De Sousa), hard-charging network TV exec Jordan (Nia Long), prep school founder Julian (Harold Perrineau) and his former stripper turned very proper wife Candace (Regina Hall). And since most of them have romantic or otherwise dicey history with each other, the holiday atmosphere becomes fraught very quickly.

Most of the time, Lee turns that tension to comic purposes and he scores that way more often than not. (Howard is non-stop hilarious, by the way, which won't come as a surprise to anyone who saw him doing this 15 years ago, or in the recent, otherwise generally awful, "Movie 43.") But Lee is not shy about serving up heavy-duty emotional catharsis, including marital meltdowns, a fist-swinging catfight, and a tragic revelation that turns the last act into deep-dish melodrama. The kind of melodrama in which characters literally fall to their knees and wail.

Fortunately, while they're down there, they know enough to seek the aforementioned spiritual comfort, which means there's always the chance for a Christmas miracle or two — and who's not a sucker for one of those?

You just have to make room for it under the tree with all the sexing, skankery and semi-sleazy salaciousness.

2013 Holiday Events

The Deer Path Inn has played a traditional role in creating family events on the North Shore for almost a century. With elegant decorations and a jolly English ambiance, the Deer Path Inn is the ideal place to establish a Holiday tradition your family will always treasure.

Thanksgiving Feast to Relish

Enjoy Thanksgiving in the finest tradition at the Deer Path Inn. Chef Khellil and his talented culinary staff will have marvelous creations with all the traditional trimmings.

Seating Available from:
Windsor Hall 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
English Room 12 p.m. To 6 p.m.

Sunday Brunch with Santa

For the young and young at heart, it's Sunday brunch with Santa Claus at the Deer Path Inn on Sunday, December 8th and 15th. Children can visit with St. Nick by the Christmas tree in the hotel lobby as the Inn's festive holiday decorations create the perfect setting.

Christmas Eve Festivities

December 24th begin your most memorable Christmas at the Deer Path Inn. Chef Khellil and his talented culinary staff are preparing a delightful Christmas Eve meal.

Service between 5:00-8:30 p.m. The warm and relaxed atmosphere of the Inn will give you the sense of being in the comfort of home on this magical night.

Our dining rooms and lobby will be decked in Christmas splendor, filling the air with the spirit of the season.

Christmas Day Dinner

After you have exchanged gifts among loved ones, give Christmas Day a grand finale with a wonderful dinner at the Deer Path Inn. Traditional Christmas fare is designed to envelop your family in the warmth of the season.

Seating Available from:
Windsor Hall 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
English Room 12 p.m. To 6 p.m.

New Year's Eve Dining

Start your New Year's Eve with a quiet dinner in our English Room. Seating offered from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. to enjoy Chef Khellil's superb holiday creation. We hope you leave with an elegant beginning for almost a century.

The English elegance and festive spirit of the holidays are yours to enjoy as our most welcomed guests.

This year, start your own family tradition at the Deer Path Inn, and do not forget to ask about Deer Path Inn Gift Certificates ... wonderful stocking stuffers for everyone on your gift list.
WHEN COMEDY WENT TO SCHOOL 
**1/2**

Stars: Robert Klein, Jerry Lewis, Sid Caesar, Larry King

Rated: No MPAA rating

by 500 of America's Finest Artists & Craftspeople from 30 States!

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NOVEMBER 21, 22, 23, 24
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$30 Gift Certificates Awarded Hourly - Stage Entertainment, Food, Drink and Family Fun

Two Giant Levels
Free Parking

November 8 - December 15, 2013

"Vibrant...crackles with humor"
- The New York Times

"Riveting new play... Mind-blowing"
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...and performance clips from the likes of the above plus Alan King, Dick Shawn, Rodney Dangerfield, Joan Rivers, Woody Allen and Jackie Mason. There's no denying you'll hear some good jokes, though.

BLUE IS THE WARMEST COLOR

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

Somewhere within its three-hour running time, there's a really wonderful two-hour movie here charting the mysteries, ecstasies and lurking agonies of overwhelmingly passionate romance. And doing so in a way that should ring true to anyone who's ever fallen helplessly in love, regardless of gender preference, but with lots of very French tedium on the side. Seydoux and newcomer Exarchopoulos are excellent (so excellent they shared director Abdellatif Kechiche's Grand Prix d'Or award at Cannes) as a lesbian artist and a young aspiring teacher who are smitten by love at first sight and then subjected to the usual torments over the next 10 years. The emotions are intense and the sex scenes are as graphic as advertised, but there are also long dull stretches of seemingly purposefully wearisome everyday life interspersed by discussions of the mystical properties of female orgasm, etc. C'est la vie.

THE BEST MAN HOLIDAY

**1/2**

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

It might not quite be able to settle on whether it wants to scandalize you or sanctify you, or make you laugh or make you sob, but "The Best Man Holiday" does a lively job of bouncing back and forth from one to the other. The over-achieving gang from Malcolm D. Lee's 1999 hit "The Best Man" (everyone's a novelist, a network exec, a TV star or some such) returns for more raunchy sex, old-time religion and full-on melodrama, assembling at the mansion of NFL superstar Chestnut — a proponent of "God, family and football" in that order. At least you're not likely to be bored. There's way too much going on here for that.

CHARLIE COUNTRYMAN

Rated R for some brutal violence, language throughout, sexuality/nudity, and drug use
Stars: Shia LaBeouf, Evan Rachel Wood, Mads Mikkelson

A young man (LaBeouf) whose dead mother appeared to him in a vision and told him to go to Bucharest, falls in love there with a woman (Wood) being pursued by a vicious gangster. Fredrik Bond makes his feature debut with the crime drama.

WHEN COMEDY WENT TO SCHOOL

**1/2**

Rated: No MPAA rating
Stars: Robert Klein, Jerry Lewis, Sid Caesar, Larry King

The Odeum
2 Blocks West of Rt. 83, Midway Between Lake St (Rt20) & Noah Ave. (Rt.64) on Villa Ave.

NOVEMBER 8 - DEC 15, 2013

NOVEMBER 21, 22, 23, 24

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Feel great about bringing the whole family to this affordable holiday tradition with special guest artists from the Houston Ballet!

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~Chicago Sun-Times

Siegel-Schwall
Blues Band
with harmonica legend, Corky Siegel
Nov 23

"For groups like The Rolling Stones...names like Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf were exotic inspirations. For Siegel-Schwall they were the guys that played with them on 43rd Street."
~Lin Brehmer, Music Director at WXRT

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## Local Worship Guide

### SKOKIE

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

**Devar Emet Messianic Synagogue**
- Address: 7800 Niles Ave., Skokie
- Phone: 847-674-8146
- Website: www.devaremefl.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
- Address: 5130 Touhy, Skokie
- Phone: (1 block west of Eden’s)
- Website: www.kollemeth.org
- **Worship: Sundays at 10:30 AM**

**Beth Hillel Congregation B'Nai Emunah**
- Address: 3220 Big Tree Lane, Skokie
- Phone: 847-256-1213
- Website: 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 Roytman
  - Rabbi Michael Cohen, Ed. Dir.

**Congregation Bene Shalom**
- Address: 4425 Greenview Ave., Skokie
- Phone: (847) 367-3330
- Website: www.beneshalom.org
- **Intertaft Families Welcome**
- Rabbi Dr. Douglas Goldfarb
  - Asst. Rabbi Shari Chen, Societ Charlene Brooks
  - All services voice and sign language
  - Check our website for service times

**Evanshire Presbyterian Church**
- Address: 4555 Church Street
- Phone: 847-674-4117
- Website: www.evanshirepresbyterian.org
- **Every Sunday at 11 AM**

**St. Peter's United Church of Christ**
- Address: 3600 W. Dempter St.
- Phone: 847-675-0951
- Website: www.tbiskokie.org
- **Sunday Service: 11:30 AM**
- Rabbi Jeffrey Weill
  - Cantor Benjamin Warschawski
  - Rabbi Neil Brief, Emeritus
  - Intercessory Prayer: Tuesday & Friday, 12 PM
  - Dr. Clarence Cranford, Jr., Pastor
  - Elizabeth W. Cranford, First Lady

**Temple Beth Israel**
- Address: 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076
- Phone: 847-675-0951
- Website: www.tbiskokie.org
- **All Positive Forms of Entertainment**

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**Beth Hillel Congregation B'Nai Emunah**
- Address: 3220 Big Tree Lane, Skokie
- Phone: 847-256-1213
- Website: 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 Roytman
  - Rabbi Michael Cohen, Ed. Dir.

**Evanshire Presbyterian Church**
- Address: 4555 Church Street
- Phone: 847-674-4117
- Website: www.evanshirepresbyterian.org
- **Every Sunday at 11 AM**

**Carter-Westminster United Presbyterian Church**
- Address: 4950 W. Pratt Ave., Skokie
- Phone: 847-675-0846
- Website: www.carterwestminster.org
- **Worship: Sundays at 10:30 AM**

**Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation**
- **Your home for Jewish, Learning, Living and Loving**
- Address: 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076
- Phone: 847-675-0951
- Website: www.tbiskokie.org
- **Weekly Shabbat Services**
  - Fri 8PM, Koleinu 7PM & Sat 9:30AM
  - Minyan Mon-Thurs 7PM;
    Sat & Sun 6PM
  - Monthly Shabbat dinners at 6:30PM
  - Religious School Tues & Sat;
    Sunday Service: 11:30 AM
  - Bible Study: Wednesday, 7 PM
  - Intercessory Prayer:
    Tuesday & Friday, 12 PM
  - Dr. Clarence Cranford, Jr., Pastor
  - Elizabeth W. Cranford, First Lady

**W.M. Temple Church of God in Christ, Inc.**
- Address: 5151 Fairview Ave, Skokie, IL
- Phone: 847-675-0951
- Website: www.wmtemple.org
- **Pastor Cranford, Jr., Pastor**
  - Elizabeth W. Cranford, First Lady

### To showcase your House of Worship here call 630-978-8277 or worship@Pioneerlocal.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHICAGO</th>
<th>MORTON GROVE</th>
<th>NORTHFIELD</th>
<th>NORWOOD PARK</th>
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</table>
| 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  
9233 Shermer Rd., Morton Grove  
Sunday Worship & Sunday School - 10 AM  
http://www.stlukesecc.org/  
Handicap Accessible  
Rev. Isabel Hughes, Pastor | Willow Creek Community Church North Shore Campus  
315 Waukegan Road  
847-441-6599  
Sunday Services: 9 & 11 am  
Promised Land (Infants-G1): 9 & 11 am  
Elevate (Grades 6-8): 11 am  
Impact (Grades 9-12): 6 pm  
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| St. Paul Lutheran Church  
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Sunday School & Adult Bible 9:30 AM  
Saturday Worship 6PM  
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(Lake and Austin)  
Morton Grove, IL  
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www.mgcpcpresbyterian.org  
Sunday Worship 10 AM  
Fellowship 11 AM  
Rev. Lolly Dominski  
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ALL ARE WELCOME! | Zion Lutheran Church  
8600 W Lawrence Avenue  
Niles, IL 60707  
(708) 453-3514  
Rev. Luther John Bajus, Pastor  
Sunday Worship 9:30 am  
Holy Communion 3rd & 5th Sunday  
Early Communion – 1st Sunday 9:00 am  
Sunday School – 1:30 pm  
Adult Bible Study – 10:45 am  
Handicapped Accessible  
Serving the Community  
Sharing God’s Promises |  |
| Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)  
6201 W Peterson Ave.  
Chicago, IL (773) 631-0715  
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Sunday Worship 10:30AM  
Holy Communion Weekly  
Pastors: Barbara Berry-Bailey  
and Jeffery King | St. John Lutheran Church  
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Children’s programming for Pre-K - 7th grade,  
Nursery service for younger children  
8:45 am Confirmation classes for 8th grade  
9:00 am High School  
Adult Education Bible Study Sunday 11:30 am  
Adult Education Bible Study Thursdays 6:30 pm  
“Open Forum” Adult Learning First Thursday  
every month 6:30 pm  
www.parkridgepresby.org  
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Rev. Carlyle Aitken Wilkie Pastor  
Mr. Aaron Higashi Dir. of Youth & Family Ministries  
Mrs. Amy Schaetzlein Sunday School Dir. |  |
Death Notices

Carpenter, Angelynne S.
86, passed away peacefully on October 25, 2013. She was born September 18, 1927 in Chicago to Epifanio and Justine Saietta. She moved to Park Ridge in 1961 and lived their until 2008 when she retired to Arizona. She was very active in several not for profit organizations in both Park Ridge and Scottsdale, AZ. She acted as as president of the Park Ridge League of Women Voters during the 1970s, she acted in 13 Field School Variety Shows and was a docent at the AZ Museum of Art. She enjoyed traveling and keeping up with current events.
Beloved wife to Richard Carpenter; loving mother to Lee (Patti), Louis and Molly Carpenter; grandmother to William Wallace and Cody Carpenter and Great Grandmother to Grace and Lily Wallace.
In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Misericordia or the Alzheimers Association. She will be missed.

Sign Guest Book at www.chicagolandobits.com

General Information Concerning The Death Notice Page
• A paid death notice may be ordered to appear in the Pioneer Press when funeral arrangements are made, and must be submitted in writing. Information about charges for death notices may be obtained from area funeral directors or by calling (847) 998-3400. A 24-hour fax service is offered at (847) 486-6836 or death notices may be e-mailed to deathnotices@pioneerlocal.com.
• An in memoriam or card of thanks may be placed using the same information above.
• The deadline for placing a death notice, in memoriam or card of thanks, is Monday at 5:00 pm. Photos must be submitted by Monday at 2:00pm.
• The death notice department is staffed from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday.
• Family and friends may visit our website and sign a guest book at Pioneerlocal.com.

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

Ask about our available Death Notice Emblems.
Call: 847-998-3400 (opt 6)
**HOROSCOPES: NOVEMBER 20 - NOVEMBER 26**

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** A project benefits from your organizational skills that get it up and running. Your success leaves a highly favorable impression.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** Spend time on practical matters through the end of the week. Then begin shifting your focus to more artistic pursuits. Resist being overly self-critical.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Restarting those creative projects you had outside for a while will help provide a much-needed soothing balance to your hectic life.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** A change in plans could make it tough to keep a commitment. But stay with it. You’ll get an A-plus for making the effort to do what’s right and not taking the easy way.

**LEO (July 23 to August 22)** The Lion’s enthusiasm for a workplace policy review is admirable. But be sure you know who is really behind the resistance to change before pointing your finger.

**VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** You can expect to have to do a lot of work through midweek. Devote the rest of the week to checking your holiday plans in case some need to be adjusted.

**LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Try to avoid signing on the dotted line in the early part of the week. You need time to study the issues. Later in the week might be more favorable for decision-making.

**SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** A new development could snarl travel schedules or other holiday-linked projects. Some flexibility might be called for to deal with the problems.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Relatives seek your advice on a matter you’d rather not be involved in. Use that sagitarian tact to decline the “offer.”

**CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** A shift in planning direction might help you speed up your progress toward achieving that long-planned goal.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** An unexpected demand for settlement of an old loan could create some pre-holiday anxiety. Check your records thoroughly before remitting payment.

**PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** It’s a good time to get into the social swim and enjoy some well-earned fun and games with those closest to you before you have to resume more serious activities.
CAR STORY

Fred Thompson's 2010 Chevrolet Grand Sport Corvette

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

Fred Thompson of his 2010 Grand Sport Corvette.

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

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

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

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

Thompson doesn't consider buying the older sports cars anymore. "I've had enough crude, old sports cars. Now I prefer new, nicer cars."
I'LL BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW...
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The major turnaround by the Kansas City Chiefs under new coach Andy Reid in 2013 might not be as surprising as it seemed. Get this: in 2012, the Chiefs were the first team in NFL history to sport six Pro Bowl players while winning fewer than six games. The talent was there. Then came newly acquired quarterback Alex Smith. Much maligned in San Francisco, his yards-per-attempt in his last year there was 7.97, better than Aaron Rodgers that season (7.78), Drew Brees (7.73) and Tom Brady (7.58).

The St. Louis Cardinals rolled into the major league playoffs yet again in 2013 with an unprecedented offensive output to go along with great starting pitching. Incredibly, the Cards completed the regular season with a batting average of .330 in 1,621 at-bats with runners in scoring position, the highest in history. The big league average was .255. St. Louis shattered the previous record of a .312 batting average with runners in scoring position posted by the 1950 Boston Red Sox.

The Red Sox made their own charge into the 2013 playoffs sporting facial hair that made them look like a band of 19th Century dandies. Such was not always the case. In 1968, major league officials actually voted to ban facial hair. The ban lasted only two seasons, and by the early 1970s the rolling Oakland A's displayed muttonchops and mustaches galore. But for some six decades prior, there was virtually no facial hair in the majors, in part because Gillette became a major sponsor early in the 20th Century. Still...

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SCORES | GAME STORIES | PLAYER PROFILES | VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS

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

Niles residents chose Toyota more often than any other auto brand when purchasing cars in August. Toyota accounted for 41 sales out of the 225 total sales (all car brands) to residents of Niles. A total of 23 new Toyota vehicles and 18 used Toyota vehicles made up the 41 overall Toyota sales in the month.

Ford, which accounted for a total of 31 sales, was the second most popular car brand, followed by Chevrolet, with 23 sales. Honda and Nissan also made a good showing in the new car sales category, with 10 and nine sales, respectively.

Ford led the way in the used sales category with 21 total sales in the month. Toyota and Nissan made a good showing in pre-owned sales, with 15 and 16 sales, respectively.

Toyota ranks first in sales

TODRIVE.COM
NEWS SERVICE

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Over the course of the month, local dealers counted for 68 percent of overall car sales to Niles residents, while private party sales accounted for 32 percent of auto sales. The top dealership selling to Niles residents in August was Bredemann Toyota with 12 total sales, followed by Golf Mill Ford, O'Hare Hyundai, and Star Nissan.
Senior RB plans to visit Pittsburgh, Wisconsin, Tennessee

BY MATTHEW HARNESS
mharness@pioneerlocal.com, @harnesspreps

NILES — One day after his football season ended at Notre Dame, Chris James went to Twitter to express some of his thoughts.

James, who uses the Twitter handle @CantB3Stopped, tweeted, "Just wrote out all of my goals for this off-season. #GrindTime"

James didn't reveal those goals on Monday at the school, but the senior said he will be working out at Notre Dame's gym after taking some time off to rest his body. He said the training will be as intense as it's ever been in his life.

"I will be getting myself ready for college," he said. "I want to be ahead of the game when I get where I am going."

James struggled to go anywhere Saturday in the Dons' 24-0 loss to Loyola in the second round of the Class 8A playoffs. He carried the ball 18 times for 74 yards, 35 of which came on the team's final possession. James also lost two fumbles in the second half.

"It was sad for the season to come to end," he said of the 7-4 campaign.

As of Monday, the 5-foot-10, 210-pound James hadn't taken any official college visits, but he said he at least wanted to take trips to Pittsburgh, Wisconsin and Tennessee before signing his National Letter of Intent.

"I plan on going to all three," he said. "I am not promising anything."

Notre Dame coach Mike Hennessey has acted as one of James' advisors throughout the process. He said James has handled the circus surrounding him with poise.

"My job is to help him feel comfortable because (recruiting) can be difficult and confusing," said Hennessey, who added that Michigan State is another one of the colleges James is interested in. "He's done his homework, along with his grandmother, about which schools will provide him with the best opportunities, academically first, and where he will fit in best as an athlete."

Even though every team game planned against him, James finished the season with 1,734 yards and 20 touchdowns, averaging 6.9 yards per carry.

"On a scale of 1 to 10, it was a 10," said James, who ran for 2,089 yards and 30 touchdowns as a junior.

"I have no regrets. We gave it all we had every game."
Wolves prepared for life after Rusek

Four underclassmen who played on varsity this year are in line to be contributors in 2014

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

The case can be made that Olivia Rusek is the best player in the history of the Niles West girls volleyball program. The 5-foot-11 senior outside hitter has been the Wolves’ go-to player since she was a sophomore, according to coach Stacy Metoyer, and Rusek registered 395 kills — 273 more than her next closest teammate — and a .435 hitting percentage in her final season.

Rusek played her final high school match on Nov. 5 in a 25-16, 25-19 loss to New Trier in the Class 4A New Trier Sectional semifinal. Metoyer said that Rusek will definitely be missed next season, but the veteran coach remained optimistic that there were underclassmen on the team this year who are capable of filling the large void the Miami (Ohio) recruit will leave.

“It will probably be more of a balanced offense [next year], but we’re still going to run the plays we run and we have a couple younger players who have a lot of potential,” Metoyer said. “We had two freshmen on varsity this year, and that’s our first time ever doing that. We have a couple sophomores, and we’re hoping that one more year of [playing] club [volleyball], that they’re able to step in and — compete at a higher level.”

One of the freshmen Metoyer pulled up this season was setter Eleni Balourdos. Niles West began its season running a two-setter offense, but Balourdos became the team’s primary setter when the Wolves switched to a 5-1 offense before they beat Niles North on Sept. 11. Balourdos spent the rest of the season in that role.

Metoyer said Balourdos took Metoyer said Balourdos took over as the starting setter because she was one of the best servers on the team — she can place her jump serve all over the court, which allowed her to lead the team in aces (34) — and because she connected well with the team’s hitters, including Rusek.

Balourdos figures to continue improving in the offseason. She made the Wildcat Juniors volleyball team — the same club that helped Rusek become a Division I-caliber player — earlier this year.

Balourdos is one of four underclassmen expected to return and contribute next year for the Wolves. The others are freshman outside hitters Kayla Johanson, sophomore defensive specialist Diana Martinez and sophomore outside hitter Dominique Krasno, who finished second on the team with 122 kills.

“Obviously it’s going to hurt the team that our seniors are leaving — that Olivia is leaving — but there’s nothing really we can do about that,” Balourdos said. “We can just keep growing as a team and getting better. We’re all going to be getting closer, and just growing as a team. We’ve already played together for a year, so I know where to set them. They know where my sets are. We can only get stronger from here.”

Niles West junior Christine Mujica finished fourth out of 207 runners in the Class 3A girls cross country state race Saturday. She completed the course in 19:28.
CSL SOUTH SWIMMING NOTEBOOK

Trevians see conference as ‘stepping stone’

Strong start helps Wildkits achieve goal of finishing second

BY DAN SHALIN
For Sun-Times Media, @danshalin

SKOKIE — After winning the CSL South Meet, New Trier swimmers and coaches talked about the conference meeting leading to bigger and better things.

The Trevians (461.5 points) finished over 100 points ahead of second-place Evanston (349.5) on Saturday at Niles West.

Second-year New Trier coach Mac Guy said his swimmers likely had one eye on this week’s Glenbrook South Sectional and next week’s state meet. New Trier is the three-time defending state champion.

“I think [winning conference] is something you don’t want to take for granted,” Guy said. “But the girls just have their sights set really high. So, [conference] is in a way a stepping stone and it’s certainly going to be a confidence builder.

“We’ve come off three weeks of some really grueling training, and so for the girls to be pushing through the way they are, it’s really exciting and bodies well.”

The Trevians broke multiple meet and pool records at conference.

Senior Kara Lucenti had a memorable day. She was part of the 200-yard medley relay team that won in a pool-record time of 1 minute, 47.89 seconds. She then won the 200 individual medley in a pool- and meet-record time of 2:06.19. She now holds the pool and conference record in the event.

“I like having [the races] back-to-back,” Lucenti said. “I was so happy with my times and the whole team’s performance in general.

“This is just the first stepping stone to state. To see the girls go out with such fast times is just getting everyone pumped and psyched and will give us more confidence for state.”

Joining Lucenti on the 200 medley relay were junior Katy Christian, senior Liza Galagher and freshman Ingrid Wall.

The Trevians also set a pool record in the 400 free relay as the team of Wall, junior Britanny Bishop, freshman Mia Haggerty and senior Amelia Giergenti swam a 3:34.10.

EVANSTON

The Wildkits came in second in the conference after finishing third the last three seasons. Coach Kevin Auger said his team defeated third-place Glenbrook South (286) by a bigger margin than initially anticipated.

“Second place was what we were gunning for all year,” he said. “We wanted to supplant GBS and felt we had a pretty good shot at it. We figured we had a 25- to 30-point edge coming in, but we built that to 60 something. We had really good swims. I really couldn’t have hoped for much better.”

The Wildkits gained confidence from their second-place finish in the meet-ending 200 medley relay, according to Auger. The team of sophomore Honore Collins, sophomore Anna Woods, sophomore Lana Wolff and senior Rosselyn Lopez swam a 1:53.30, finishing a spot ahead of a full-strength team from Glenbrook South.

GLENBROOK SOUTH

Titans senior Bailey Moynihan won the conference title in the 100 backstroke (1:00.19).

Moynihan also swims on the team’s 200 free relay, which is the event before the backstroke. There is just a 15-minute break between the two races.

“I like having [the races] back-to-back,” Moynihan said. “My adrenaline gets pumping off that relay and it carries right into that backstroke.”

SCOTT NO LONGER WITH WOLVES

Niles West senior Edan Scott, who finished seventh in the 50-yard freestyle (23.92 seconds) and 10th in the 100 free (52.17) at last year’s state meet, is no longer with the team.

Wolves coach Jason Macejak said he had no comment on the matter.

Scott took fifth at state in the 50 free (24.20) as a sophomore in 2011 and sixth in the event as a freshman (24.27).

She last swam in a meet for Niles West on Sept. 28, according to the Wolves’ website.

Scott took fifth at state in the 50 free (24.20) as a sophomore in 2011 and sixth in the event as a freshman (24.27).

MABLE SOUTH

The Hawks (162 points) finished fourth at conference, and coach Don Kura said several strong performances indicate that his slight alterations to the normal training routine are paying off.

“We tried to give them a little more rest at certain times during the season, and we did a little more speed work, which usually pays off at the end of the season,” he said. “They are starting to see the results of it now. There has been some doubting, but after conference, a lot of the girls were telling me how excited they were for the sectional.”

The Hawks with the best chance of qualifying for state are senior Jenna Zitkus in the 100 butterfly and 100 back and senior Hannah Ferecl in the 50 and 100 free.

NILES WEST

The Wolves (92 points) came in fifth at the CSL South Meet and junior Emma Helgeson won the 200 free (1:56.14).

Helgeson said she surprised herself a little with the victory, and that her performances have improved since she gave up the 500 free in order to concentrate on the 100 and 200 free.

“I didn’t know I would get conference champ. I thought second or third, but I didn’t think first. But I’m really happy about that,” Helgeson said. “Switching events really helped. I love the 500 and all, but I got so nervous for it. Also, part of my [end-of-season] taper has been not training for the 500 because [now] I don’t do as much distance swimming.”

New Trier’s Kara Lucenti looks up at her winning time of 2 minutes, 6.19 seconds in the 200-yard individual medley as she cools down at the CSL South Meet at Niles West on Saturday. She set a pool and conference record in the event. | MICHAEL R SCHNIEDT/ FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA
Maine East sophomore Alyssa Kaewwilai (left) and Niles North sophomore Selma Jukic check their times after finishing the 100-yard freestyle at Saturday's CSL North Meet in Northbrook.
Making waves

Area teams prepare for sectional meet

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Niles West's Emma Helgeson swims the 200-yard freestyle during the CSL South Meet at Niles West on Saturday. | MICHAEL R. SCHMIDT/SUN-TIMES MEDIA
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