Taking the frigid plunge

Cops get really, really cold to raise cash for Special Olympics | PAGE 6
The Gold Standard

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EDUCATION

Cherry pie,
an 85-year-old tradition
Maine East’s Cherry Pie Festival brought 300 students to the school's cafeteria for treats, and a bit of history, too. Page II
State zip codes determine who gets free Silver coins

Vault bags loaded with U.S. Gov't issued coins are up for grabs as thousands of U.S. residents stand to miss the deadline to claim the money; now any U.S. resident who finds their zip code listed below gets to claim the bags of money for themselves and keep any valuable coins found inside by covering the Vault Bag fee within the next 2 days

The phone lines are ringing off the hook. That's because for the next 2 days Vault Bags containing valuable U.S. Gov't issued coins are actually being handed over to U.S. residents who find their zip code listed in today's publication.

"Now that the bags of money are up for grabs U.S. residents are claiming as many as they can get before they're all gone. That's because after the Vault Bags were loaded with over 100 U.S. Gov't issued coins the bags were sealed for good. But we do know that some of the coins date back to the early 1900s, including: a 90% pure Silver Walking Liberty Half Dollar, an Eisenhower Dollar, some of the last ever minted U.S. Dollars, Kennedy Half Dollars, Silver Mercury Dimes, rarely seen Liberty 'V' Nickels, Dollars, Kennedy Half Dollars, Silver Mercury Dimes, rarely seen Liberty 'V' Nickels, Walking Liberty Half Dollar, an Eisenhower Dollar, some of the last ever minted U.S. Dollars, Kennedy Half Dollars, Silver Mercury Dimes, rarely seen Liberty 'V' Nickels, Walking Liberty coin minted between 1916-1947 free with each Vault Bag they claim.

Are the Silver Walking Liberty coins really Free: Yes. U.S. residents who beat the 2-day deadline are getting a Silver Walking Liberty coin minted between 1916-1947 free with each Vault Bag they claim.

Why is the Vault Bag fee so low: Because thousands of U.S. residents have missed the deadline to claim the money the World Reserve has re-allocated Vault Bags that will be scheduled to be sent out in the next 2 days. That means the money is up for grabs and now any resident who finds the first two digits of their zip code on the Distribution List below gets to claim the bags of money for themselves and keep all the U.S. Gov't issued coins found inside. Each Vault Bag fee is set at $99 for residents who miss the 2-day deadline, but for those who beat the 2-day deadline the Vault Bag fee is just $99 for as long as they call the National Claim Hotline before the deadline ends at 1-888-282-6742

How to claim the bags of U.S. Gov't issued coins: Read the important information below. Then call the National Claim Hotline at 1-888-282-6742

1. Keep calling and can't get through: This announcement is being so widely advertised because each Vault Bag is guaranteed to contain a free Silver Walking Liberty coin and just that one coin alone could be worth $15 to $325 in collector value. So thousands of residents are calling to claim as many Vault Bags as they can get before they're all gone. In fact, since the Vault Bag fee is just $99 everyone is claiming as many bags as they can before the deadline ends. So if lines are busy keep trying, all calls will be answered.

2. How much are the Vault Bags worth: Coin values always fluctuate and there are never any guarantees, but here's why U.S. residents are claiming as many Vault Bags as they can get before they're all gone. After the Vault Bags were loaded with over 100 U.S. Gov't issued coins including: Silver, scarce, highly collectible, and a big scoop of unsought or currently circulating U.S. Gov't issued coins the bags were sealed for good. But we do know that some of the coins date back to the 1900s. That means there's no telling what you'll find until you sort through all the coins. So you better believe it just $99 the Vault Bag fee is a steal since the free Silver Walking Liberty coin alone could be worth from $15 to $325 in collector value.

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Police take frigid plunge for the Special Olympics

GAIL SAUNDERS
For Sun-Times Media

The phrase "go jump in the lake" has taken new meaning after a Special Olympics Illinois events last weekend at Northwestern University.

Participants braved the near-freezing waters off Lake Michigan for either the Super Plunge, where they had to immerse themselves in a pond just off the lake 24 times in 24 hours, or the Polar Plunge, where they immersed themselves just once.

Either way, both have the option of running into heated tents after the plunge for blankets, food, camaraderie and water.

Niles Deputy Police Chief Vince Genualdi was at the Polar Plunge, accompanied by his wife, Julie, who is a police officer with the Park Ridge Police Department.

As a super plunger, she was going on her 23rd plunge mid-Saturday afternoon, but someone offered her $300 more if she added a 25th plunge, so she altered her plans.

The Genualdis were each other's support team.

"To be honest with you, my wife and I kind of compete with each other," he said. "We give each other support, but it's a little thing we have. It's a little competition we have in our house. She always says that Park Ridge is going to raise more money than Niles, and I say that Niles is going to raise more money than Park Ridge. Ultimately, it's for a good cause."

Although the Niles Police Department has 55 officers, they ranked tenth in the state after raising $24,700 for the Olympics by using Facebook and support from the Village Hall and family and friends.

The other events include the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, where officers pass an Olympic torch to the summer Olympic games at Illinois State University; the Plane Pull, where competing teams have to pull a plane across the tarmac at O'Hare; and Cop on Rooftop, where officers stand on the roofs of Dunkin Donuts throughout the state while the community pledges money.

"They really enjoy watching us doing these events," Genualdi said. "They know it's for a good cause. They want to see pictures of us doing the Plane Pull. They want to see pictures of us doing the Polar Plunge. They really enjoy it."

Niles Police Sergeant Ron Brandt was supposed to have participated in the Polar Plunge with Genualdi, but a foot injury forced him to cancel, though their combined total was $2,300, for which they thank their supporters.

"He felt bad because of all the money he raised," Genualdi said. "So he sat in a chair in cast and uniform and poured a bucket of water over himself while taking his picture."

More than 300 hundred people from area schools, businesses and public service agencies participated in the Plunge and raised more than $266,000, but their reasons for doing so most likely align with the Genualdis.

"I found a true passion for it. It's enlightening and inspiring and it's teaching true values to my kids," said Julie Genualdi.

"We do it for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them the confidence and opportunity to train and compete in different sports and how to excel through teamwork, sportsmanship, dedication, integrity and acceptance," Vince Genualdi said.
Pace, village proposed speeding up Free Bus

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
For Sun-Times Media | @istudenkov

Niles Free Bus riders may be in for a major change in the coming months. The Village of Niles and Pace suburban bus transit agency launched a study to improve the Niles Free Bus service and integrate it with the Milwaukee Avenue service improvements that Pace plans to implement.

As part of the study, Niles will be hosting community meetings and collecting public feedback on its website. The study is expected to finish by summer 2014.

The Niles Free Bus is currently made up of three routes. Route 411 serves most of the village in a winding, bi-directional loop, linking together all the major destinations. Route 412 links Golf Mill Mall and several other retailers on the north end of Niles. Route 413 provides service on the south end of the village.

Niles is also served by several regular Pace bus routes. Most notably, Route 270 runs along Milwaukee Avenue through the entire village, linking Golf Mill Mall to Chicago's Jefferson Park Transit Center.

In 2009, Pace launched a study to improve speeds on some of its busiest routes, including Route 270. It called for the creation of bus rapid transit corridors.

The buses would get signal priority at intersections, and they would be able to go around traffic using short bus-only segments and special, bus-only traffic signals.

The Village of Niles has been considering revising bus routes for years, but it wanted to hold off making any changes until it knew what Pace was planning for Route 270. While the transit system completed the study in 2011, it didn't get approved until the summer of 2013.

With the approval secured, the Village of Niles and Pace officially launched the Niles Free Bus improvement study in the beginning of this year. The goal of the study is two-fold. It will try to determine how to improve the Free Bus system to best meet the needs of residents, employers and businesses in general. It will also determine the best way to connect the system with the new Arterial Rapid Transit version of Route 270.

According to Niles spokeswoman Hayley Garard, the changes could be far-reaching. "The goal is to see what the people want out of the bus and how to get people to use the bus," she said. "We want to see if we need to change routes — maybe some new routes we need to run, some routes people aren't using?"

Garard assured Niles Herald-Spectator that the Niles buses will remain free.

According to the study fact sheet, the Niles and Pace will analyze travel patterns, demographics and all current transit services offered throughout the village. The agency representatives will meet "community stakeholders" and survey bus riders.

To get input from as many Niles residents as possible, the village will be hosting two public hearings. The first public hearing will take place on Mar 19, between 6 and 8:30 p.m. at Oasis Water Park and Fun Center. The second hearing will be held sometime later this spring.

Niles also posted a ridership survey on its website. It can be accessed through https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/paceNiles.

The Village of Niles and Pace hope to complete the study some time in the summer of 2014.
MAINE TOWNSHIP

Maine Township’s $42K spokesman: campaign work ‘non-compensated’

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
johnson@pioneerlocal.com | @Jen_Pioneer

Maine Township spokesman paid to promote events in the township has also been promoting campaign activities for an elected official — but he says he’s done so as a volunteer.

Dick Barton, who performs public relations work for the township, has emailed several campaign press releases for Carol Teschky’s run for Maine Township Republican committeeman in the March 18 election.

Teschky is supervisor of Maine Township, an elected position she has held since 2007. Illinois election law forbids public money from being used for political or campaign purposes. Barton’s campaign emails are sent from the same address that Barton uses to promote township events and activities.

Among other messages, Barton recently requested press coverage of an open house for Teschky’s committeeman campaign office in an email sent Feb. 3.

Two days later, on Feb. 5, Barton sent two press releases from the same email address with the official Maine Township letterhead, promoting a township scholarship and an anti-bullying event.

Though he paid a flat annual fee to work for Teschky at the township, Barton said he does the political work on his own free time.

“He’s worked with Carol for 12 years,” Barton told the Park Ridge Herald-Advocate. “I think she’s a fine person and well-qualified for this office, so I’ve been volunteering my time and putting out a few yard signs and a few press releases, non-compensated.”

Teschky also described Barton’s work as “volunteering” for her campaign.

“He’s not in any way interfering with what he does for the township,” she said.

Barton has provided publicity for Maine Township since 2000. According to his contract with the township, Barton’s company, Park Ridge-based Barton Marketing Group, is paid an annual retainer fee of $42,000 by Maine Township. The company also is paid a one-time fee of $2,000 each year “for sales and promotion activity, onsite coordination and photography” for the MaineStreamers annual Senior Expo. Reimbursement for any additional “pre-approved,” out-of-pocket expenses related to work for the township also is available.

Paul Green, professor of policy studies at Roosevelt University and a former supervisor of Monee Township, said it is “a stretch” to show conflict of interest with Barton doing publicity, reportedly as a volunteer, for Teschky’s committeeman campaign because this is a political office, not a governmental one.

“If they hired him to do PR work for the township and he was hired to do PR work for this person running for supervisor, then you’d have a problem,” Green said.

Teschky, of Glenview, is facing Park Ridge resident Charlene Foss-Eggemann in the Maine Township GOP committeeman race.

Two Republican officials battling for committeeman seat

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
johnson@pioneerlocal.com | @Jen_Pioneer

Maine Township Republicans next month will again have a choice in selecting the person who will represent the local GOP.

Maine Township Supervisor Carol Teschky and Charlene Foss-Eggemann, President of the Republican Women of Park Ridge, are vying for the seat of Maine Township Republican committeeman in the March 18 election, both saying they want to rebuild and strengthen the local party.

“I want to unite the party and reinvigorate the way it used to be,” said Teschky, identifying herself as a 30-year member of Maine Township Regular Republican Organization, where she previously served as president. “I’ve served under five committeemen, so I know what the operation should be. To me, it was a natural progression when I found out Rosemary Mulligan was not seeking reelection and committeeman. I took the opportunity to put my hat in the ring.”

“I’ve worked with a lot of campaigns and particularly this last cycle we had no help from the local GOP,” said Foss-Eggemann, explaining her motivation behind running. “The reason the party [in Maine Township] is deficient is because of neglect and poor leadership.”

If elected, Foss-Eggemann said she plans to get together a grassroots group of volunteers to get out the vote and serve as precinct captains.

“I fully intend to stay in the township to raise my family work in my private sector job and rebuild our Republican party to its former glory,” she said.

Teschky said she plans to hold meetings with Republican residents “more than once a year” and invite guest speakers, while also publishing an organization newsletter.

During a Park Ridge Republican Women candidate forum, she said she plans to start an “aggressive volunteer recruitment program,” including outreach into the township’s ethnic communities.

Teschky, of Glenview, said the main responsibilities of GOP committeemen are to “organize the Republicans in Maine Township” and recruit candidates to run for township office. Teschky herself has been elected to township office since 1989. She served as a trustee from 1989 to 2007 before being appointed and then elected supervisor.

“The role of committeeman, Foss-Eggemann said, is to appoint precinct captains, recruit volunteers, appoint election judges, raise money for the Republican Organization, issue a sample ballot and "help Republican nominees win against the Democrats." She said none of these things were done during the last election cycle by current committeeman Rosemary Mulligan.

Foss-Eggemann is a resident of Park Ridge and also serves on the Park Ridge Public Library Board, a seat to which she was appointed by the City Council last year. She works as a corporate counsel consultant for LexisNexis, an online database service.
Niles looking for village lobbyist

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
For Sun-Times Media | @istudenkov

A day after Morton Grove officially appointed a lobbyist, Niles began a search for a lobbyist of its own.

The Board of Trustees authorized the Task Force for Legislative Initiatives and Funding Solutions to start the process at its Jan. 28 meeting. Once contracted, the lobbyist will help Niles find grants and advocate on the village's behalf in state and federal legislature. The candidates will need to apply before the end of February, and the board may choose the final candidate as soon as by the end of March.

Over the last 20 years, suburban municipalities have increasingly been turning to lobbyists for help with obtaining state and federal funding for capital projects. Glenview has had a lobbyist since the late 1990s. Skokie has had a lobbyist since May 2007. More recently, Morton Grove hired Dan Shomon to serve as a village lobbyist in January board meeting.

Meanwhile, Niles worked on obtaining state grants in-house. For the past few years, the responsibility fell to Village Manager Steven Vinezeano.

That changed in October 2013. As part of his plan to get village more revenue from previously-unexploited sources, Mayor Andrew Przybylo formed the Task Force for Legislative Initiatives and Funding Solutions. In January, the task force began discussing the possibility of contracting a lobbyist.

Vinezeano told Niles Herald-Spectator that their reasoning was simple — they were following the other municipalities' lead. There are a number of projects that Niles is looking to fund, including stormwater mitigation, an environmental action plan and village-wide biking and pedestrian improvements.

According to the village's guiding document, the lobbyist that gets the contract would be expected to do more than just help with grants. If there's a law Niles wants passed — or doesn't want passed — the lobbyist would be expected to talk to legislators and advocate on the village's behalf. The lobbyist would be responsible for arranging meetings between village officials and legislators. Finally, the lobbyist would keep track of state and federal laws and let the Niles government know if any of them might impact the village.

The candidates will be evaluated based on several criteria. They will need to show that they have experience securing government or private grants and the experience of representing municipal governments on state level. The task force will also look at the candidates' reputation and how much they would charge for their services. The document emphasizes that the first two criteria are more important than the latter two.

Most of the contract terms will be negotiated once the winning candidate is selected. But one term has already been laid out. Niles has a right to cancel the contract with the lobbyist at any time, so long as it notifies the lobbyist at least 30 days ahead of time.

The candidates have until the noon of Feb. 21 to submit their applications. The task force will look at the applications and recommend a winning candidate to the board. It will be up to the board whether to approve the recommendation.

Vinezeano couldn't say for certain when the board would consider the task force's recommendation. "[It] could take a month or more," he said.
**POLICE BLOTTER**

**NILES**

**RETAIL THEFT**

Joy Marc Querol, 29, of 820 McIntosh Court, Prospect Heights, was charged with retail theft and obstruction on Feb. 17 after she allegedly stole $74 worth of merchandise from a store on the 5600 block of Touhy Street. She has a March 7 court date.

A 16-year-old Skokie girl was charged with retail theft and obstruction on Feb. 17 after she allegedly stole $17 worth of items from a store on the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue and then gave police a false name. She was later released to her father and a court date was pending.

**MORTON GROVE**

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**DUI**

Khatanbaatar Chuluunbat, 38, of 640 Naples Court, Glenview, was charged with driving under the influence on Feb. 15 following a traffic stop on the 6100 block of Touhy Avenue at 2:48 a.m. He has a March 7 court date.

Peter Rigali, 33, of 8241 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence on Feb. 16 after his vehicle was reportedly parked on a sidewalk on the 8000 block of Oakton Street at 12:34 a.m. He has an April 2 court date.

Jacqueline Macias, 39, of 3519 W. Evergreen Ave., Chicago, was charged with driving under the influence on Feb. 15 following a traffic stop on the 5000 block of Milwaukee Avenue for allegedly speeding at 3:50 a.m. Police said two empty cans of beer containing 15 cans of beer and one bottle of beer were discovered on the driver's seat. Macias has a March 28 court date.

**BURGLARIES**

Shawn Koth, 23, of Tomahawk, Wis., was charged with burglary after he was arrested on Washington Road and Lyons Street in Morton Grove Feb. 16. Police said Koth was pulled over for traffic violations and officers later determined he was responsible for multiple vehicle and residential burglaries in the area. A court date was scheduled for March 12.

**CRIME BRIEFS**

**NILES**

**DISPUTE**

Police were called to a home on the 9200 block of Willow Lane on the morning of Feb. 16 after a man and woman became involved in an argument inside a parked car. The man told police the woman threw his keys in a snow bank and he could not find them. A 28-year-old woman told police that she saw her ex-husband drive her home three times on Feb. 15 holding an ax. Police spoke with the man who denied owning an ax and said he was taking his son to a movie that day.

**THEFT**

Two thousand dollars in cash was discovered missing from a safe inside a restaurant on the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue on the morning of Feb. 15. Police said the manager checked the bathroom and found $300 on top of a towel dispenser, along with empty bank bags and deposit slips. The key to the business was also reportedly found on the sidewalk outside. Police were investigating a possible suspect.

A man stole three cell phones on Feb. 16 from a store on the 5600 block of Touhy Avenue, dropping one of them as he allegedly ran to his car and fled west on Touhy Avenue.

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It's a tradition that dates back 85 years - to the very opening of the high school that decades later would be known as Maine East.

It's the Cherry Pie Festival, an event that brings students of the Park Ridge school together to enjoy a piece of cherry pie and learn more about the history of their school and the concept of public service.

The 2014 festival took place on Feb. 20 in the school cafeteria, drawing a crowd of about 300 students.

Snjezana Salamon, a social science teacher and sponsor of Maine East's Maine Historical Society, explained that the tradition started in 1929 as a way to "uplift the community in Maine Township."

"It was a way for everyone to put aside their worries for an evening and celebrate Democracy in the United States," Salamon said.

Initially, the festival was called the "All-American Banquet," which Salamon described as an "upscale" affair with entertainment, guest speakers, dinner, and, of course, pie, for the families of Maine High School students.

The banquets underwent a change to become an after-school festival in which students could partake.

Each year the festival hosts speakers, many of them alumni, who address the students about civics, government or a part of their school's history.

This year's guest speaker was David Barker, a Maine East alum who went on to have a 40-year career at Maine East, first as a teacher and later as principal. He retired in 2006. Past alumni speakers have included David Hiller, president and CEO of the McCormick Foundation; Cook County Circuit Court Judge Timothy Sheldon; and Chicago's 47th Ward Ald. Ameya Pawar.

"We try to get interesting people who have a connection to the school and have something interesting to say," said Social Science Department Chair Carl Brownell.

Brownell is also hopeful that students gain more understanding of "the notion of leadership and public service" and "a greater appreciation for Maine East and what it's meant to people through the years."

"It's the one constant that we've had [in District 207] for over 100 years: the idea that history matters and we are all connected to that history of Maine and what it offers our students," Salamon added.

It is also a way to acknowledge "the many opportunities that are awarded to each and everyone in this country," Salamon said. "We need to embrace and celebrate that."
After backlash, schools keeping overnight camp program

BY NATASHA WASINSKI
For Sun-Times Media

Parents pining to keep the overnight component of an outdoor education program at Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 got the news they wanted to hear: Fifth-graders can be sent on the field trip with packed bags — for now.

The school board on Feb. 24 opted not to act on the administration's recommendation to redesign the annual Camp Duncan trip by eliminating the overnight stay.

Instead, officials encouraged Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning Lori Hinton and her team of principals to continue collaborating with a community task force to improve the existing program.

District 64 has sponsored an off-site outdoor education program for the past two decades. Elementary students have been traveling to Camp Duncan since 2009. Located about an hour north in Ingleside, the campgrounds are run by the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago.

In its current format, the two-and-half-day program focuses on environmental awareness, team building, problem solving, and cooperative learning. But growing concerns over student safety by teachers, health staff and principals prompted administrators to revaluate the trip. In late January, they sought board approval to turn the Camp Duncan program into an extended-day experience rather than an overnight field trip.

Public backlash against the proposal was immediate. Parents at the Feb. 10 school board meeting wore T-shirts asking officials to “Save Camp Duncan because it isn’t Camp Duncan.” A Facebook group titled “Save Camp Duncan for D64” garnered 400 “likes” in less than four weeks.

A district-issued survey of parents with children in third through seventh grade found most parents felt the overnight stay was essential to the program. Former Roosevelt PTO President and Camp Duncan chaperone Kris Purcell said the administration’s proposal hinted at teachers and administrators not wanting to go.

Heeding the school board’s advice, the administration had sought feedback from parent volunteers to develop other options besides eliminating the overnight stay.

Hinton said her team considered seven ways to better address supervision and safety issues, reduce the district’s liability, and increase parents’ responsibility. However, none of the options sufficiently alleviated the staff’s concerns, she said.

Hinton said school leaders are ultimately concerned about the commitment they make to parents to keep children safe while they spend the night at Camp Duncan.

“And we’re not comfortable that we can consistently provide that level of safety,” she said.

School board members lauded Hinton for presenting an “unpopular” recommendation but, in the end, most weren’t swayed that the overnight stay was risky enough to be chopped from the fifth-graders’ program.

“I think the reward is worth the risk,” board member John Heyde said. “I think for many of our families this will be an opportunity to [experience] a camp-like setting ... I’d hate to eliminate it.”
Parents who would like to see full-day kindergarten as an offering in Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 can have their say by answering a new survey launched by the district.

The "Full-Day Kindergarten Interest Survey" will be available on District 64's website, www.d64.org, through March 10. The six-question survey asks parents if they would be interested in free, full-day kindergarten at their neighborhood elementary school or at one school dedicated as an early-childhood center with bussing provided.

A question also asks if there is support for half of the full day to be funded through tuition payments.

Residents of the district who are not parents of students in District 64 are also invited to take the survey.

District 64 currently offers only a half-day kindergarten program at five elementary schools, in which approximately 400 students are enrolled, a news release from the district said. Kindergarten classes are offered in the morning or the afternoon.

Over the last several weeks, some parents attending District 64 School Board meetings have expressed a desire for full-day kindergarten.

Meghan Keefer, a District 64 teacher and parent of preschool-age children in the district, told the School Board on Feb. 10 that funding, space issues and a "lack of interest" in the community were cited as reasons why full-day kindergarten has not been explored as an option in recent years, but she asked that it be brought back for consideration.

"Though I know there may be challenges to exploring full-day kindergarten, I think those three issues could be discussed again," she said, adding that she believes community interest does exist.

The results of the survey will "help the Board of Education determine whether to explore in greater depth what a full-day program might look like at some time in the future," Superintendent Philip Bender said in a news release.

During Monday's School Board meeting, Bender said full-day kindergarten was established in the last district in which he worked, but pointed out that such a program will come at an expense to District 64.

If a school district establishes a full-day kindergarten program, it will also need to provide the half-day option as well, according to the Illinois State Board of Education.

Anonymous donor gives Park Ridge sandbag machine

Amid concerns this week that melting snow and heavy rainfall might lead to flooding the city of Park Ridge was the recipient of a gift to better help residents protect their property should they be victims of overland flood waters.

A "two-man sandbag machine" was donated to the city's Public Works Department by a resident, said Public Works Superintendent Brian Wiebe. The machine replaces the need for citizens to use shovels in order to fill the bags, which are provided at the Public Works Service Center, 400 Busse Highway, during times of flood watches and warnings.

"It will still take a bit of work to fill the bags, but this makes it a little easier," Wiebe said of the machine.

The resident to donated it wishes to remain anonymous, according to Wiebe.

The city no longer has a sandbag limit for residents.

"As long as people are willing to fill them, they can take as many as they need," Wiebe said.
Dear Help Squad,
I am having some problems with Advocate General Hospital in Park Ridge and their vendors on an uninsured but doctor-recommended surgical procedure my son had recently. Since it was not covered by my health provider, I asked them for a written quote on what it would cost, or even a range (within $5,000) in writing, which they refused to provide. All I could get from them verbally is that it would cost between $8,000 and $10,000 if there were no complications. The bill came in at almost $17,000 (and there were no complications).

My question: Can you help me? This is a lot of money for us and although I am sure I would win in court, the lawyer fees will probably be quite high.

Thanks in advance for your consideration,
Mike, The Northern Suburbs

Help Squad received this letter back in October, and we have been working on this case ever since.

We finally have some results.

We spoke with Mike shortly after we got his letter. First he explained why the cost of his 16-year-old son's surgery was so much higher than predicted. The hospital admitted that they double booked the doctor who was performing Mike's son's surgery, and that since Mike's son was already under general anesthesia, they had to keep him under until the doctor was able to get to him, resulting in double the amount of needed anesthesia.

Despite being extremely alarmed upon hearing the fact that his son was kept under anesthesia longer than he needed to be, Mike paid the hospital $8,800 shortly after he received the bill, which was for roughly $17,000, but lowered to $13,000 if he paid cash within 30 days. Mike said he called the hospital approximately 15 times and left messages over the next few weeks to try to have the $5,000 difference removed. Instead of responding, the hospital turned the account over to various collection agencies, including the Des Plaines-based collection agency, Medical Recovery.

Enter Help Squad.
With Mike on the line, we called Medical Recovery and spoke with someone named Nicole, who wouldn't give us her title, and who also told us there was no manager we could speak with at the company.

Mike told Nicole he would pay Medical Recovery $1,000 to have the debt cleared, and Nicole told us she would get back to us. After 12-15 phone calls, all in which we left messages for Nicole, neither Help Squad nor Mike ever heard back from her.

So, last week, we decided to get to the bottom of this by going to the top.

Help Squad finally tracked down management at Medical Recovery, Michael Gerlach, and another executive who said his name was Steve.

The two assured us they would look into it, and they did.

Within a couple of days, Mike got a call from James Hobbs, director of customer service for Advocate Lutheran General.

After their discussion, Hobbs agreed to adjust Mike's bill so that no payment is due!

While we commend Hobbs and Advocate Lutheran General for doing the right thing, the whole ordeal has left Mike with some problems. He is now being chased by two collection agencies, and his credit report has been affected.

A few days ago, Mike sent an email to Hobbs asking for the hospital's assistance in the removal of his debts from the collection agencies. Help Squad left four messages for Hobbs and didn't hear back. However, we want to make it clear that it doesn't mean Hobbs is ignoring Mike's letter.

Dear Mike,
We are so happy that your hospital bill is cleared, but we are sorry that you might be facing some credit issues in the future that are not your fault. We do want to let you know how glad we are that your son is healthy and doing well. We know that like any parent, you realize that is the most important factor in all of this.
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College application season is upon us again

Another silly season is almost over once again. I'm not referring to fall television or professional football — although both could count. Rather, I'm thinking of the college application process.

This process begins before senior year, as high school students and their parents worry about semester grades and extracurricular activities, and it affects a growing number of students and their parents.

Many automatically assume they should apply to the most selective schools. Michelle Obama has cited concerns about undermatching, or instances to the most selective schools. Many students and their parents worry about thinking of the college application process.

This process begins before senior year as high school students and their parents worry about the free press with the words: "They made it the First Amendment for a reason.

It was clear that the "They" he referred to was the Founding Fathers. And it was also clear that the free press clause was in the First Amendment, not the Third, or the Sixth, or the 10th, because it was paramount to the creation and endurance of the Republic.

To those of us weaned on Vietnam and Watergate, the greatest danger to the free press was government. "Congress shall make no law." It says nothing about everyone owning a press.


Now comes the Obama Administration, in the form of the Federal Communications Commission, which sees a different danger. There is no concern about a free press here. Instead, the worrisome problem is whether the "Critical Information Needs" of the people are being met by media organizations and media outlets.

"Now comes the Obama Administration, in the form of the Federal Communications Commission, which sees a different danger. There is no concern about a free press here. Instead, the worrisome problem is whether the "Critical Information Needs" of the people are being met by media organizations and media outlets."

Christopher Schroeder
Oak Park

Freedom of the press prone to government incursion

Throughout my journalism career, I have always tried to remember the words of a fellow classmate from my graduate school days, who ended a debate about government interference with a free press with the words: "They made it the First Amendment for a reason.

It was clear that the "They" he referred to was the Founding Fathers. And it was also clear that the free press clause was in the First Amendment, not the Third, or the Sixth, or the 10th, because it was paramount to the creation and endurance of the Republic.

To those of us weaned on Vietnam and Watergate, the greatest danger to the free press was government. "Congress shall make no law." It says nothing about everyone owning a press.


Now comes the Obama Administration, in the form of the Federal Communications Commission, which sees a different danger. There is no concern about a free press here. Instead, the worrisome problem is whether the "Critical Information Needs" of the people are being met by media organizations and media outlets. In other words, the greatest danger to "Critical Information Needs" of the people is the free press.

That's quite an inversion of reality. And leave it to a government bureaucracy to come up with that Orwellian phrase for news.

And how does the government intend to determine whether news outlets — and they include broadcast, radio, newspapers, and even bloggers and social media as news outlets — are meeting the information needs of citizens?

They are going to monitor and question media owners, editors, reporters, producers and news gatherers about news philosophy, staff demographics, story selection, beat assignments, story assignments, story angles and even ask reporters to snatch on their editors when they argue about coverage and story angles.

The government also plans to ask citizens where they would try to get information about a number of "what if" scenarios. These scenarios are highly specific situations that are usually the daily function of government bureaucrats, not daily headlines.

You don't stop the presses about whether someone knows how to apply for food stamps, or where to get drinking water tested if it smells funny, or where to get extra help for your highly gifted student, or where to get information about a gas leak if the attendant only speaks Spanish, or where to vote.

Other "what if" scenarios are left off the list, such as: Where would you get information about how many black or Hispanic motorists are stopped by your local police compared to white motorists, or where to compare your representative's voting record to campaign contributions, or where to find out if your congressman uses his campaign contributions to buy jewelry for his mistress, or why your school board fired a popular teacher, or how many party hacks are working on a government payroll, or why your government reads your emails and monitors your phone calls.

I could go on and on, but I guess my news philosophy doesn't fit in with what the government — and I don't care if you call it Obama or Nixon — sees as the "Critical Information Needs" of the people.

But I guarantee if the people in power need it, you don't need to know about it.
Help minimum-wage employees — tip better

Most of what we hear about raising the minimum wage has to do with workers who are paid by the hour.

We don’t hear much about workers who are paid by a combination of hourly wages and tips.

Illinois minimum wage is $8.25 an hour. The minimum wage for tipped employees is 60 percent of the minimum wage, or $4.95 a hour.

And a 2009 national study of 4,387 workers found that 30 percent of the tipped workers were not even paid minimum wage and that 12 percent had tips stolen by employers or supervisors.

There is great opposition to raising both minimum wages. So, it remains up to us, the tip-paying public, to help these employees make ends meet.

I consider myself a good tipper, partly because I’m a nice guy, a fair guy and also because I am mathematically illiterate.

The check will come and it’s for, say, $30. Food and service were good, so I’ll leave a 20 percent tip. That’s $18.50, right?

But what if the food and service are lousy?

What if I ordered a hot beef sandwich and I got liver and onions? And what if it took the server 33 minutes to bring it to me? And what if it took 22 minutes to get the check and it was wrong?

And what if the server gave me an argument about it and didn’t apologize when I was proven right and I heard her mutter something about my weight and lineage?

So, what is the right tip then?

15 percent?

See, I’m hopeless.

What I should do is speak to the manager and calmly enumerate the restaurant’s shortcomings. Either that or wait until the server is at the other end of the room, leave a dime and run like hell.

Of course, you never can go back to that restaurant again.

But this hardly ever happens, does it? Most service is efficient and pleasant.

And an efficient and pleasant server actually makes the meal better.

So, I try to tip well. Somebody has to pay these nice people.
7034 W. Monroe St.,
Niles

House size: 1,237 square feet
Lot size: 6,325 square feet
Year built: 1956
Bedrooms: 3
Bathrooms: 2
Garage: Two-car detached
Property tax: $1,760.17 (2012)
Exterior: Brick

School districts: Niles Elementary School District 71 and Niles Township Community High School District 219

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

Morton Grove
8630 Waukegan Road, #215: Lynn M Melnick and Van Groos Sebastian Koster to Benny D Jona for $130,000 on Jan. 10
8630 Ferris Ave, #207: Jean C Stewart to Kathleen Bellina for $77,000 on Jan. 8
7736 Davis St: Michael Tejeda to Steven Trapp for $133,000 on Jan. 9
5506 Lincoln Ave, #117: Maha Awwad Reyes and Wilivaldo Reyes to Tomasz Wadowski for $66,000 on Jan. 9

Park Ridge
1207 Beau Drive: Karen L Torger to Joseph B McMahon Jr and Christina McMahon for $350,000 on Jan. 10
1217 S Washington Ave: Terrence Bernier and Patricia Bernier to Jason A Bond and Marie E Bond for $160,000 on Jan. 7
1422 Garden St: Jada Armour to Christopher Lcalaminita and Michelle Lcalaminita for $410,000 on Jan. 7
1428 S Crescent Ave: Thomas H Cornille and Donna Cornille to Paul J Chevlin and Loma L Amado-Chevlin for $225,000 on Jan. 8
75 Boardwalk Place, #75: George E Harnett and Carmela L Harnett to John A Vittallo and Mary Ann Vittallo for $296,000 on Jan. 7

Glenview
243 Nora Ave: Jason S Ornduff and Karen N Ornduff to Carmen Maria Navarro for $398,000 on Jan. 9
112 Washington Road: Faisal K Zafar, Samreen Khalid and Samreen Zafar to Mitsuh Patel and Pratap Gohil for $650,000 on Jan. 7
1609 Palmgren Drive: Werner M Mangelsen to Nicole L Schuebel and Hernando Tamayo for $780,000 on Jan. 8

Skokie
3913 4 Winds Way: Guy Lebreton Trust and David Cohn Trust to Etan Ehrenfeld and Tamar M Ehrenfeld for $437,000 on Jan. 10

Wilmette
820 Romona Road: Hak Sung Chung to Frederick B Rolison and Karen Dexter Rolison for $565,000 on Jan. 7
2012 Washington Ave: Kendall J Wroblewski for $175,000 on Jan. 7
721 Prairie Ave: Rosemary B Eggert to Pacific Development Co LLC for $577,000 on Jan. 7

Northfield
2000 New Willow Road: House of David Holdings LLC to Thomas F Geary Jr and Taryn L Geary for $330,000 on Jan. 8

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THURSDAY, FEB. 27

CJE SeniorLife Resource Counseling
1:30 p.m.: Make an appointment for a private session with a Resource Specialist from CJE SeniorLife, trained to counsel adults 60 and older, 60-minute sessions are available. Niles Public Library District, 6860 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-3234.

Lyric Opera Lecture: ‘La Clemenza di Tito by Mozart’
7 p.m.: Lecturer Christine Casey discusses different aspects of this opera. Registration required. Niles Public Library District, 6860 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-3234.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

Notre Dame College Prep Burke Scholars Program Fundraiser
6 p.m.: Begins with 6 p.m. mass; a reception follows with a dinner buffet, music and a cash bar. There will be a silent auction, a basket raffle and the attire is casual. Donations appreciated. To RSVP or provide a donation, visit www.nddons.org/burke-scholarshipprogram. St John Brebeuf Ministry Center, 6301 N. Harlem Ave., Niles. Call 847-965-2900.

HAPPENING NEARBY

THURSDAY, FEB. 27

Meet with Representative from State Sen. Kotowski’s Office
9:30 a.m.: A representative from Illinois state Sen. Dan Kotowski’s office will meet with residents to answer questions. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Toddler Time: Winter
9:30 a.m.: A story time followed by a craft and socialization time. For ages 24-26 months with a caregiver. Also offered at 11 a.m. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

Job Seeker Workshop
9:30 a.m.: Participants will learn how to create a resume, cover letter and will review interview techniques. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

Let’s Go Science
10 a.m.: Professor Smart and Dr. Knowitall demonstrate scientific principles, including matter, gravity, air resistance, pressure and propulsion, microscopes, lenses and fulcrums, static electricity and optical illusions, through their fast-paced production. Recommended for kids in kindergarten to fifth grade. Additional performance at 1 p.m. North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie.

FRIDAY, FEB. 28

Duplicate Bridge
9 a.m.: The senior center offers a friendly bridge game every Friday morning. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge.

Oscar Party
5 p.m.: Professor Ron Falzone leads this Oscar celebration featuring clips and reviews of this year’s top films and personalities. Attendants can also participate in Oscar contests and enjoy a movie snack. This is a BYOB event. Mother’s, 7134 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago. Call 773-774-4804, $10 suggested donation.

T.G.I.F. Family Night
6:30 p.m.: An evening of entertainment and fun for all ages. Prairie View Community Center, 6834 Dempster St., Morton Grove.

Peace, Love, Girlfriends
8:30 p.m.: Join friends for a night that includes retro make-overs, peace, crafts, a disco dance party and more. Each participant receives a themed goodie bag at the end of the night. For ages 4 to 11. Norridge Park District, 6331 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge. Call 708-467-1244. $30-$35.

Film: ‘Blue Jasmine’ & Oscar Prediction Contest
7 p.m.: Join in for an after-hours showing of Woody Allen’s newest movie about a New York socialite (Cate Blanchett), deeply troubled and in denial, who arrives in San Francisco to impose upon her sister. 100 minutes. Enjoy complimentary popcorn and fill out an Oscar prediction ballot for a chance to win a bundle of nominated DVDs after the Oscars air on March 2. Call 847-929-5102 or visit www.mgpl.org for more information. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE CLUB
7 p.m.: Students grades four and five can enjoy inflatables, a live DJ, dancing and more. Concessions available. Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sibley St., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-3570. $5.

FRIDAY NIGHT FEVER
9 p.m.: The Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation takes a trip to Finn McCool’s Irish Sports Pub and Grille in Schaumburg for a night of music and dancing. For ages 18 and older. Appetizers and soft drinks are included in the program fee. Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation, 6920 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-986-5522. $25-$58.

SATURDAY MARCH 1

Korean Brush Drawing
10 a.m.: Artist Soojin Lee shows participants the techniques of Korean brush drawing with ink and a brush on rice paper. Supplies will be provided. For ages 12 and up. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-985-4220.

Hello, iPad (For People without iPads)
10:30 a.m.: Learn how to use an iPad. For people who do not currently own a tablet. Registration required. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-867-7828.

Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration
11 a.m.: Celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and Read Across America Day with crafts, games and raffle. Registration required. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton St., Skokie.

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.

BOOK CLUB MIXER

Up Close & Personal with Nicolette House (Grades 3 & Up)
2:30 p.m.: Meet a four-time U.S. gold medalist in figure skating. Registration required. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-7500, ext. 7000.

MONDAY, MARCH 3

Money Matters Discussion
10 a.m.: The group meets on the first and third Monday of each month. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge.

MGPL Kids: Monday Morning Playgroup
10:30 a.m.: Drop-in play time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver to introduce young children to the library in a low-key, unstructured session. Call 847-929-5102 or visit www.mgpl.org for more information. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

Improve Your Memory
1 p.m.: This class teaches memory improvement strategies to help retain information such as numbers, names and faces. North Shore Senior Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-784-6030, $8-$11.

Adult Book Discussion Group: Page Turners
1 p.m.: The group discusses "How It All Began" by Penelope Lively. New members welcome. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-7500, ext. 7000.

Knitting Roundtable for Adults
2:30 p.m.: Work through knitting projects and socialize with fellow knitters. Expert knitters can show you how to solve knitting challenges. Call 847-929-5102 or visit www.mgpl.org for more information. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

Maker Space Monday
6 p.m.: Learn about the maker space movement and how to make basic electric circuits with tape and wire. For kids in kindergarten to sixth grade. Registration required. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-867-7828.

Alzheimer's Support Group
6:30 p.m.: Meets on the first Tuesday of each month. North Shore Senior Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-784-6030, $8-$11.

SEE CALENDAR. NEXT PAGE »
CALENDAR

month. Home Instead Senior Care, 8822 Niles Center Road, Skokie. Call 847-673-1250.

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

Beyond Google Group
7 p.m.: Internet savvy is just a click away. Explore the latest Internet developments and search techniques. Participants' questions will direct the discussion. New members are welcome. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-7500.

Adult Book Discussion: 'Gift from the Sea'
7 p.m.: The group meets to discuss the novel by Anne Morrow Lindbergh. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

Men's Club
9:30 a.m.: The group meets the first two Tuesdays of each month for breakfast. Cost is $2. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge.

Eleanor Roosevelt: Overcoming Odds, Achieving Greatness
11:30 a.m.: Historian Jim Gibbons presents a detailed biography of Eleanor Roosevelt, one of the most powerful and controversial women in American history. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. For more information, call 847-965-4220.

Thriving with Arthritis
1 p.m.: This session helps attendees understand treatments and maximize their ability to thrive with arthritis. North Shore Senior Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-784-6030.

An Evening with Whole Foods Market: Cooking on a Budget
7 p.m.: Save money at the grocery store with the help of Whole Foods Market. The class includes a cooking demonstration, recipes and samples. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

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 meets with residents to answer questions. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-825-3123.

Book Talk: Historical Mysteries
1 p.m.: The group discusses a historical mystery book series. North Shore Senior Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-784-6030.

Anarchy, Revolution and Organized Labor: Chicago Haymarket Riots and Law in an Age of Terror
1 p.m.: Attorney Melvin Merzon details the alarming background stories of the parades, strikes and rallies leading up to the politically charged 1886 riots and the investigations, arrests and trials that led to prison, the gallows and suicide. North Shore Senior Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-784-6030.

Basic Internet Class
2 p.m.: Learn how to use the Internet, do a basic search, follow links and arrive at a specific web address. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-729-7500.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

Thursday Morning Book Discussion
10 a.m.: The group discusses "Dear Life" by Alice Munro. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Protect Your Medicare!
1 p.m.: The Illinois Medicare Patrol Program gives a presentation about Medicare fraud, including how to prevent, detect and report it. North Shore Senior Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-784-6030.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

Nonfiction Book Discussion
10 a.m.: The group discusses "The Unwinding" by George Packer. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Introduction to Microsoft Word 2010
10 a.m.: Participants will learn how to create, format, print, proof and save documents. Participants must be comfortable with the computer, keyboard and mouse. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

Park Ridge Panhellenic Club
Noon: Features a luncheon and a program presented by Lynn Rymarz on "Famous Women in History." The Panhellenic Club is open to alumnae of college Greek letter sororities and awards scholarships to high school graduates in the Maine Township area. Park Ridge Country Club, 636 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-823-3102.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

Second Saturday Family Story Time
10 a.m.: Stories and crafts for the whole family. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.
### BUILDING PERMITS

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permit type</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Issue date</th>
<th>Permit cost</th>
<th>Construction cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Single family - remodel</strong></td>
<td>7636 N. Nova Ave., Niles</td>
<td>Nov. 14</td>
<td>$545</td>
<td>$32,234</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2. Misc. structure</strong></td>
<td>7103 W. Birchwood Ave., Niles</td>
<td>Nov. 14</td>
<td>$199</td>
<td>$11,075</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3. Awning</strong></td>
<td>609 Civic Center Drive, Niles</td>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>$75</td>
<td>$4,800</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4. Single family - remodel</strong></td>
<td>7318 W. Howard St., Niles</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td>$546</td>
<td>$28,109</td>
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<td><strong>5. Furnace and air conditioning (HVAC)</strong></td>
<td>7350 N. Caldwell Ave., Niles</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td>$725</td>
<td>$55,000</td>
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<td><strong>6. Flood control</strong></td>
<td>7077 N. Franks Ave., Niles</td>
<td>Nov. 14</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$6,900</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7. Flood control</strong></td>
<td>8830 W. Cherry Ave., Niles</td>
<td>Nov. 14</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$6,900</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8. Flood control</strong></td>
<td>7064 N. Franks Ave., Niles</td>
<td>Nov. 14</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$6,900</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>9. Roof (commercial and residential)</strong></td>
<td>8231 N. New England Ave., Niles</td>
<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td>$47</td>
<td>$3,433</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10. Interior alter (commercial)</strong></td>
<td>7350 N. Croname Road, Niles</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td>$725</td>
<td>$55,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Joseph J. Bredemann, who sold cars in suburbs for half a century, dies

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
johson@pioneerlocal.com | @jen_Pioneer

When the funeral procession for Joseph J. Bredemann, Sr. passed by the Park Ridge auto dealerships that bear his name, employees lined up along Dempster Street for a final farewell to their boss.

"If you saw the outpouring of affection for this man from the community, it was extremely moving," said Martin Bredemann, Joseph Bredemann's son, as he prepared to say his own final goodbye Monday. "Literally, people were lined up outside (the church) waiting to share their condolences and we're so grateful for that outpouring."

Joseph Bredemann, Sr., chairman of the Bredemann auto dealerships in Park Ridge and Glenview, died Feb. 20 after a short illness. He was 87 and continued to work for the Bredemann company until about a week before his death, Martin Bredemann said.

"His entire life was spent in the service of people," Martin said of his father. "Whether it was selling a car, advising someone or actually servicing a car, his entire life was devoted to serving people with the highest possible standard, with great integrity and warmth."

Joseph Bredemann, of Evanston, took over the family dealership in the late 1950s following the death of his father and namesake. The business itself started in 1912, and in 1924 a Buick dealership at Touhy and Busse in the 1970s, Martin Bredemann said.

Joseph Bredemann, St. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PARK RIDGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

"He literally had generations of families that would come and purchase from him because they knew he was such an upstanding person."

Martin Bredemann, Joseph Bredemann's son

In the late 1890s, an agreement between the Bredemann company and the city of Park Ridge set the stage for the dealerships to relocate to a large swath of land along Dempster Street, west of Greenwood Avenue, in order for Park Ridge to begin a major redevelopment project in Uptown.

The company remains family-owned and operated by several of Bredemann's children. The Park Ridge dealership sells Chevys and Toyotas, while the location at 2000 Waukegan Road in Glenview carries Ford and Lexus vehicles.

"He literally had generations of families that would come and purchase from him because they knew he was such an upstanding person," Martin Bredemann said of his father.

Joseph Bredemann's involvement in the Park Ridge community led to the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce presenting him with a Lifetime Achievement Award in January during the annual Community Stars dinner.

"He was a great supporter of Park Ridge," said Gail Haller, executive director of the chamber. "I know he was a big supporter of the Taste of Park Ridge and also a big supporter of the chamber. He never turned me down."

Haller laughed as she recalled the one time Bredemann couldn't exactly fulfill her tongue-in-cheek request.

"When I asked for a Corvette for the [Park Ridge] Memorial Day Parade, he gave me a red truck," she said.

Bredemann also helped to defray the costs of many weekly Sunday Suppers hosted by the Park Ridge Ministerial Association for local citizens in need, was a main sponsor of the Taste of Park Ridge, and the founder of the Park Ridge Rotary Club. Haller said he also provided a vehicle that was a prize for the golfer who made a hole-in-one at the Chamber's annual golf outings. No one ever made the hole-in-one, but Bredemann always provided a car just in case, she said.

Outside of work, Joseph Bredemann loved playing tennis and boating. Most of all, said Martin Bredemann, he loved his large family, which consisted of his wife of 62 years, Sally; six children; 18 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild just born in December.

Haller recalled how Joseph Bredemann requested that his wife's name be included on the Chamber's Lifetime Achievement Award and how he acknowledged her during the banquet.

"He called me up personally and said, 'I want it to read Sally and Joe Bredemann because without Sally at my side, I couldn't have done all the things I've done,'" Haller said.

A funeral Mass was held Monday at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in Evanston, where Bredemann was a parishioner for 47 years.

In addition to his wife, Joseph Bredemann is survived by his children Joseph J. (Kathleen Marquette), John P. (Kim Gryka), Mary Ann (Stephen J.) Travnik, Thomas P. (Susan Caswell), Martin J. (Kathleen McDonnell) and Marjorie E. (Todd) Richmond; grandchildren Kathryn, Julie (John) Messner, Joseph and Elisabeth Bredemann, Anne Bredemann, Sarah Travnik (Paul) Mayhew, Katherine, Mary Elizabeth and Marjorie Travnik, Clare and Thomas Bredemann, Bridget, Andrew, Brian, and Mark Bredemann, Ellen, Jack, Grace Richmond; great-granddaughter Madeleine Mary Mayhew; and many other family members, friends, staff members and his executive assistant of 33 years, Jan. Swatek.

Contributions may be made to St. Joan of Arc School, 9245 N. Lawndale Avenue, Evanston, IL 60204; St. Margaret Mary School, 7318 N. Oakley Avenue, Chicago, IL 60645; Loyola Academy, 1100 Laramie Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091; Regina Dominican High School, 701 Locust Road, Wilmette, IL 60091; St. Peter's Catholic Church, 100 St. Peter Drive, P.O. Box 248, Douglas, MI 49406; or Misericordia Heart of Mercy, 6000 North Ridge, Chicago, IL 60660.
‘Res Fest 2014’ raises funds for scholarships

'RES FEST'
Benefiting: Resurrection College Prep High School
Date: Feb. 15
Location: Resurrection College Prep High School, Chicago
Attended: 365
Funds raised: Support for Sr. Mary Monica Hope Scholarship Fund
Website: reshs.org

1. Elizabeth Kasinska of Norridge (left) with Liza Cherivtch of Cary; 2. Stephanie (from left, front) and Deanna Angelini, both of Park Ridge; Joe Ring of Chicago (from left, back), Mike Angelini, Sharon Angelini and Fred Angelini, all of Park Ridge; June Lento of Arlington Heights, Anthony Angelini of Park Ridge; Geri Ring of Chicago, Frank Ring of Westchester and Kathy Angelini of Park Ridge; 3. Eddie (from left) and Ann Creighton of Park Ridge with Mitchell and Claire French of Edison Park; 4. Andrea Schroeder of Park Ridge; 5. Grace Pawula of Norridge (from left), Carol Kuzmanic of Edgebrook and Cynthia Seto of Norridge

PHOTOS BY KATE ANGELI EUGSTF SUN-TIMES MEDIA
CAUSE & EVENT

BLACK CREATIVITY GALA
Benefiting: Black Creativity programming/events
Date: Jan. 25
Location: Museum of Science & Industry, Chicago
Attended: 700
Raised: $360,000
Website: msi.chicago.org/programs/black-creativity

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Have a philanthropic cause or event, or a party to share? Email Deborah Hoppe at dhoppe@ploneerlocal.com. She can send you guidelines for submitting information for Trend. Or call (312) 321-2734.

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.
Bride knew it was love at first sight

Veronica Torres and Riccardo Ricci

BY CAITLIN MULLEN
Contributing writer

Verónica Torres' first thought when she saw the man who would become her husband: "Wow."

Verónica met Riccardo Ricci in May 2009 while visiting her brother Miguel in Chicago. Riccardo was one of Miguel's good friends.

"I thought [about marrying him] the first night, I think," Verónica said.

Verónica and Riccardo, both from Venezuela, live on the west side of Chicago, bordering Norridge and Rosemont. She's a Web designer, and he's in information technology.

Verónica moved to the U.S. and began living with Riccardo in September 2010. They got engaged in August 2012.

During a three-day, 42-mile hike in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Riccardo took Verónica to Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore.

"It was beautiful because we like to hike," she said of the proposal.

Riccardo said he wanted to give her a rock as a symbol of their love, and Verónica thought he meant a beach rock. He handed her a white beach rock, followed by the ring.

"I was really surprised," she said.

The couple liked the woodsy, natural setting that Kemper Lakes Golf Club in Kildeer offered.

"We like going camping, and the theme was nature," Verónica said.

A pair of hikers topped their cake for the Sept. 7 wedding, and they stuck with a neutral color scheme, featuring browns, greens and ivory. Tables were named after places they had hiked together, and orchids and branches decorated each table.

Bridesmaids wore pistachio dresses, and groomsmen wore black tuxedos with pistachio ties. Each couple or family received a recycled bamboo cutting board, and all guests were given favor boxes filled with Italian almonds, as a nod to Riccardo's Italian family.

Verónica appreciated that the wedding drew family from all around the world, including Venezuela and Italy.

"So it was great to see them all dancing and together, laughing," she said.

They had their first dance to "Bendita Tu Luz," a song Riccardo dedicated to Verónica while the two were still dating.

"He's very sweet," she said.

The two honeymooned in Bora Bora, where they relaxed but also tried snorkeling and swam with sharks.

Contact Renee Lee at rlee@bouquetcatcher.com or 312-651-6613 to share your wedding story. Facebook.com/BouquetCatcher Twitter @BouquetCatcher Pinterest.com/BouquetCatcher
Richelle Swank & Matt Welbourn

Richelle, originally from Cleveland, and Matt, from New Jersey, met four years ago while working at the Fairmont Chicago in Chicago. The couple wed Dec. 7 at Belvedere Events & Banquets in Elk Grove Village. Richelle described the winter wedding as having a "classic holiday" theme with decor colors of silver, gold and white. Richelle works in sales operations for a technology company in Chicago and Matt is a category analyst manager for Sabra Dipping Co. They live in downtown Chicago.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JENNIFER JACKSON PHOTOGRAPHY

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

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

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Kane County Fairgrounds, St. Charles, IL

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EXTERIOR DOORS: Swing Patio Doors; Steel Entries;

Mahogany Entry Doors with Leaded Glass and Sidelights

KITCHEN & BATH: Kitchens Sets by Peak Cabinet Co.; Vanities, Shower Towers;

Sinks & Toilets; Faucets; Jetted Tubs; Shower Environments; Granite Countertops

FLOORING: Finished & Unfinished Hardwood Flooring; Laminate Flooring; Area Rugs

TILE: Stone, Ceramic & Glass Tile; Mosaics and Medallions

WINDOWS: All Major Brands

MISCELLANEOUS: Lumber; Moulding; Trim; Decking; Lighting; Power & Air Tools;

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Richard Peak, 441.000454; Phil Graybill, 441.000445

William Crews, 441.001597
As veterans return from deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan, they want to complete their college educations at schools that recognize these students have life experiences that differ from the typical 18-year-old freshman. SEE PAGE 2
FROM SERGEANT TO STUDENT

Colleges step up efforts to ensure veteran success

BY KAREN HIJELSMAN FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA

The transition from military to civilian life, though often a happy turning point, poses special challenges for veterans who have had their formal educations interrupted by military service.

Local college leaders say veterans face hurdles to getting restarted in higher education because they are no longer traditional college age, have life experiences unimaginable to many civilians and may not have seen the inside of a classroom for years.

"Just navigating the VA (federal Veteran's Affairs) is an obstacle to many returning students, and the VA certainly doesn't have all of the answers," said Paul Knudston, himself a veteran who serves as director of armed services relations at National Louis University.

So NIU, along with many other private and public institutions in Illinois, are finding ways to become "military friendly" schools. "We are here to help in any capacity a vet needs," said Paul Knudston, himself a veteran who serves as director of armed services relations at National Louis University.

In tandem with initiatives from school administration, many veterans are benefiting from membership in the Student Veterans of America (SVA), which gives vets an easy way to meet and support each other. The group has its roots in 2007 social media campaigns that advocated for passage of the Post 9/11 educational benefits bill. Today the group has established more than 900 chapters across the country.

Welcome: The Veterans' Lounge on National Louis' Chicago campus was created as a welcoming space for military and veteran students enrolled in the University. The lounge was funded through a grant from The McCormick Foundation.

DeVry University's main campus in Addison also is considered a leader in assisting veterans. "From the moment a vet chooses to attend here, they have a single point of contact—that's me" said fellow veteran Scott Stratton, military liaison and senior executive adviser. "I know it can be tough not to be the sergeant anymore."

Stratton said that because DeVry is a relatively small school, the administration is open to trying out new services and getting immediate feedback. For example, twice a month the same representative from a health outreach office of the VA visits campus and can meet one-on-one with students to address benefits issues and offer information. "This was born out of feedback from students who said they didn't have time to travel to a VA office and wait in long lines."

DeVry's Stratton pointed out all colleges grant degrees, but veterans might want to ask themselves if a school is equipped to meet their unique educational challenges as well.

Schools that emphasize reaching adult learners also are boosting their services for vets as they have a lot of experience with older students. At Benedictine University, veterans get coaching on how to get the most out of their Post 9/11 GI benefits and getting college credit for their applicable military training. "We realize the troops are drawing down, and we are prepared," said Linda Owens, associate dean for student development.

Show of unity: Flags from each branch of the military are on permanent display in The McCormick Foundation Veterans' Lounge on National Louis University's Chicago campus. PHOTOS COURTESY OF NATIONAL LOUIS UNIVERSITY
“But veterans are just a microcosm of the society around them. Only a small number of veterans have disabling emotional problems,” he said.

Now that the SVA has about five years of history behind it, the group is building an alumnae network to help students learn some of the soft skills necessary to land a job and build a career. “We’re excited that former SVA members now are interested in giving back,” Garcia said. “The SVA is really a wide fraternal and academic backstop.”

Rick O’Hara is the president of the DeVry Military Resource Club, which is a chapter of the SVA. The 34-year-old former Marine is pursuing a bachelor of science in technical management, and already holds certificates in welding and HVAC. He is proud of his chapter’s service projects that have benefited the residents of Addison and well as its participation in the local Veterans Day parade.

“Right away I realized that DeVry knew what it meant to be a veteran and a student,” O’Hara said. “The classes are divided into eight-week accelerated schedules that mean you can finish more quickly.”

DeVry’s club has a lounge and computer lab, so there are spaces to socialize and quiet areas to get academic help. “You have people in school now who haven’t opened a math book in 10 years. Now that’s a challenge,” O’Hara said.

O’Hara said the easy access to his veteran peers is so important because “these people have walked in your shoes.” He observed that club that regularly draws 40 veterans to meetings and activities serves as a mini USO.

“This group at DeVry helps extend some of that brotherhood and camaraderie that a lot of vets miss.”
STUDENT VETERANS FIND SUPPORT ON MANY CAMPUSES

The following schools, a mixture of public, private, two- and four-year colleges in Illinois, have chapters of the Student Veterans of America. Some organizations are known by unique names, but are affiliated with the SVA.

A-M
Adler School of Professional Psychology - Chicago
Argosy University - Chicago
Augustana College - Rock Island
Benedictine University - Lisle
Black Hawk College - Moline
Bradley University - Peoria
Chicago State University - Chicago
Harold Washington College - Chicago
Richard J. Daley College - Chicago
Olive-Harvey College - Chicago
Truman College - Chicago
Wilbur Wright College - Chicago
Columbia College - Chicago
Danville Area Community College - Danville
DeVry University - Addison
Eastern Illinois University - Charleston
Governors State - University Park
Heartland Community College - Normal
Illinois Central College - East Peoria
Illinois Eastern Community Colleges - Olney
Illinois State University - Normal
Illinois Valley Community College - Oglesby
John Marshall Law School - Chicago
Joliet Junior College - Joliet
Kendall College - Chicago
Lake Land College - Mattoon
Lewis University - Romeoville
Loyola University - Chicago
MacMurray College - Jacksonville
McHenry County College - Crystal Lake
Moraine Valley Community College - Palos Hills
Morton College - Cicero

N-Z
National Louis University - Chicago
North Park University - Chicago
Northeastern Illinois University - Chicago
Northern Illinois University - DeKalb
Northwestern University - Evanston
Oakton Community College - Des Plaines
Parkland College - Champaign
Prairie State College - Chicago Heights
Robert Morris University - Chicago
Rock Valley College - Rockford
Roosevelt University - Chicago
Southern Illinois University - Carbondale
Southwestern Illinois College - Belleville
University of Chicago - Chicago
University of Illinois - Champaign
University of Illinois - Chicago
Waubonsee Community College - Sugar Grove
Western Illinois University - Macomb

College admissions tests - the ACT and SAT - are a huge part of the college application process for high school students. School counselors typically provide students with the lowdown on when to take these all-important tests. In addition, most public high schools offer the ACT on a school day. Following is a brief guide about how to register for the Saturday tests and the test dates for the winter and spring.

ACT
Sign up online (actstudent.org/register) or use the packet provided by your high school counselor or found in your school's college guidance office. The cost is $36.50 for the test without a writing portion and $52.50 for the exam with the writing test.

SAT
Students can register online (sat.collegeboard.org/home) or through packets provided by high schools. The cost is $51 for the basic SAT. Additional optional fees include a $24.50 registration fee for basic subject tests, $24 for language with listening tests and $13 for all other subject tests. Registering by phone costs another $15.

Fees include sending scores to four colleges of your choice for free; the fee for additional schools is $11.25 per school.

Saturday test dates will be March 8, 2014 (Feb. 7 registration deadline); May 3, 2014 (April 4 registration deadline); June 7, 2014 (May 9 registration deadline).

For more information about SAT registration, call (866) 630-9305. Each testing service does provide late and standby registration for a fee; visit their websites for more information.
Colleges, universities highlight programs that set them apart

Area schools participating in this guide share news of their programs and achievements.

University of Illinois at Chicago: Can your degree really change the world? Ask Sheila Vemmer. She is a daughter. She was Vemmer. University of minois at Chicago.

Sheila Vemmer comes from a large family of veterans. There was never any question that she would serve her country. After a tour of duty in the U.S. Navy, Sheila earned the U.S. Navy, Sheila earned

Purdue University Calumet! Rank nationally as a "Best Value" for executive education by Fortune Magazine, the MBA for Executives (MBAE) is a 18-month program designed for a distinctive mix of executives, entrepreneurs, and business professionals. The program, which leads to the award of the prestigious Purdue MBA, is housed at Purdue University Calumet. The campus is located just 30 miles from downtown Chicago. For veterans looking to go back to school, this campus is your premier choice.

The MBAE program is structured in two 16-week modules, with Saturday classes only.

Our curriculum highlights Purdue's traditional quantitative strength, but also includes other topics critical to today's business success such as International Business, Ethics, Leadership, and Risk Management. In recognition of the growing importance of globalization, the program also features an international business practicum in the form of a week-long study abroad.

A unique aspect of the MBAE program is the cohort approach. This model creates a unified learning community of goal-oriented, highly skilled professionals with varying backgrounds. The cohort acts as a close-knit cooperative network of individuals during the program, fostering teamwork development and shared learning.

Students pay an all-inclusive program fee, which includes study abroad, iPad, all textbooks, tuition, and meals. Upon the successful completion of the program, MBAE graduates receive the MBA diploma from Purdue University, a name with an established international recognition.

Northeastern Illinois University: With three Chicago locations and classes in Lake County, Illinois, Northeastern is a fully accredited public university offering more than 80 undergraduate and graduate programs, including several new additions:

- B.A. in Global Studies
- B.A. in Latino and Latin-American Studies
- Ph.D. in Early Childhood Education
- Minor in Child Advocacy Studies
- Minor in Communication
- Minor in Environmental Studies
- Minor in Geography
- Minor in Journalism
- Minor in LGBTQ Studies
- M.A. in Theater

We've been busy building too. Along with the renovations of science labs in Bernard J. Brommel Hall on our main campus and the Donn F. Bailey Legacy Hall at Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies, Northeastern is constructing our new, permanent home for El Centro Campus. The modern, 55,000-square foot space will open in time for the start of the fall 2014 semester. For more information, visit http://www.neiu.edu.

Governors State University: Academic excellence and innovation are natural partners. At Governors State University, you'll find an abundance of both.

GSU is expert at serving students seeking the opportunities afforded to them by earning a bachelor's degree or enhancing their qualifications with a certificate or graduate degree. Adults returning to school after service in the military or years busy with work and family obligations seek education options that fit their needs, and GSU has them.

- Enroll in our first freshman class and complete your first two years of general education courses in an innovative program that stresses student achievement through small classes and themed areas of study.
- Join the Dual Degree Program as a student in one of our community college partners and secure GSU advising services and low tuition rate while you earn your associate degree. When you come to GSU as a junior, you will be on your way to graduating with a bachelor's degree without wasting time or money.
- If you already have an undergraduate degree, consider the next step and earn a graduate degree or certificate. GSU has 25 master's degree programs, five doctoral programs and 23 certificate programs - each one designed to qualify you for a brighter future with the skills and tools you need.

All our programs are taught by professors who work with both undergraduates and graduates as research team members. There are many ways to enhance your options at GSU. Learn more. Go to www.govst.edu or call (708) 534-4490. It is never too late to start on your future.

Northwestern University: The Master of Science in Health Communication is a unique program that prepares students to solve important problems in healthcare by applying concepts and methods from the communications arts and sciences. The program takes an innovative approach—bringing together the science of social influence with the science of human centered design.

Program advantages:
- Leadership — Our program prepares you to be a leader who can:
  - Improve the quality and safety of healthcare
  - Improve the health of populations
  - Reduce the cost of care
- Focus — The one-year, Saturday class structure makes it easy to earn a Master of Science in Leadership for Creative Enterprises.

The one-year program helps students to develop the management skills and professional networks necessary to become leaders in the visual, performing, and interactive arts.

- Specialized management courses prepare you to lead creative people, projects, and organizations
- Unique professional development opportunities allow you to build industry contacts
- Personalized mentoring with industry leaders
- Networking treks to visit creative industries in LA, NY, and Silicon Valley
- Earmarked internships that provide real world experience

All our programs are taught by professors who work with both undergraduates and graduates as research team members. There are many ways to enhance your options at GSU. Learn more. Go to www.govst.edu or call (708) 534-4490. It is never too late to start on your future.

GSU is expert at serving students seeking the opportunities afforded to them by earning a bachelor's degree or enhancing their qualifications with a certificate or graduate degree. Adults returning to school after service in the military or years busy with work and family obligations seek education options that fit their needs, and GSU has them.

- Enroll in our first freshman class and complete your first two years of general education courses in an innovative program that stresses student achievement through small classes and themed areas of study.
- Join the Dual Degree Program as a student in one of our community college partners and secure GSU advising services and low tuition rate while you earn your associate degree. When you come to GSU as a junior, you will be on your way to graduating with a bachelor's degree without wasting time or money.
- If you already have an undergraduate degree, consider the next step and earn a graduate degree or certificate. GSU has 25 master's degree programs, five doctoral programs and 23 certificate programs - each one designed to qualify you for a brighter future with the skills and tools you need.

All our programs are taught by professors who work with both undergraduates and graduates as research team members. There are many ways to enhance your options at GSU. Learn more. Go to www.govst.edu or call (708) 534-4490. It is never too late to start on your future.

Northwestern University: The Master of Science in Health Communication is a unique program that prepares students to solve important problems in healthcare by applying concepts and methods from the communications arts and sciences. The program takes an innovative approach—bringing together the science of social influence with the science of human centered design.

Program advantages:
- Leadership — Our program prepares you to be a leader who can:
  - Improve the quality and safety of healthcare
  - Improve the health of populations
  - Reduce the cost of care
- Focus — The one-year, Saturday class structure makes it easy to earn a Master of Science in Leadership for Creative Enterprises.

The one-year program helps students to develop the management skills and professional networks necessary to become leaders in the visual, performing, and interactive arts.

- Specialized management courses prepare you to lead creative people, projects, and organizations
- Unique professional development opportunities allow you to build industry contacts
- Personalized mentoring with industry leaders
National Louis University: The university understands that transitioning from military to civilian life makes this stage of your life seamless. NLU offers exceptional opportunities and challenges. We are dedicated to helping make this stage of your life seamless. NLU offers exceptional opportunities and challenges. We are dedicated to helping make this stage of your life seamless. NLU offers exceptional opportunities and challenges. We are dedicated to helping make this stage of your life seamless. NLU offers exceptional opportunities and challenges. We are dedicated to helping make this stage of your life seamless. NLU offers exceptional opportunities and challenges. We are dedicated to helping make this stage of your life seamless. NLU offers exceptional opportunities and challenges. We are dedicated to helping make this stage of your life seamless. NLU offers exceptional opportunities and challenges. We are dedicated to helping make this stage of your life seamless. 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Master of Science in Health Communication

Program Advantages:

**Leadership**
Our program prepares you to be a leader who can:
- Improve the quality and safety of healthcare
- Improve the health of populations
- Reduce the cost of care

**Network**
From the moment you enroll, you will become a part of a global Northwestern network of experts across every conceivable industry. You'll develop close connections that will enrich you personally and professionally.

**Focus**
The 1 year, Saturday class structure and convenient downtown Chicago location allows you to integrate your studies with your existing personal and professional priorities.

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Register for an online info session at www.nuhealthwebinar.eventbrite.com
Get started on your application
We are currently accepting applications for fall admission. Scholarships are available. Apply early for priority scholarship consideration!

Not sure if the MS in Health Communication is right for you?
Website: www.healthcomm.northwestern.edu • Call: 312-503-2811 • Email: healthcomm@northwestern.edu

Master of Science in Leadership for Creative Enterprises

Build Outstanding Management Skills and a Robust Network of Industry Contacts

The one-year program helps students to develop the management skills and professional networks necessary to become leaders in the visual, performing, and interactive arts.
- Specialized management courses prepare you to lead creative people, projects, and organizations
- Unique professional development opportunities allow you to build industry contacts
  - Personalized mentoring with industry leaders
  - Networking treks to visit creative industries in LA, NY, and Silicon Valley
  - Focused internships that provide real world experience

To learn more about the MS in Leadership for Creative Enterprises:
Visit our website: creative.northwestern.edu • Email: creative@northwestern.edu
Call: 847-467-7117
Demand for manufacturing jobs spurs rise in trade school enrollment

As overseas production operations return to the United States, enrollment in trade schools continues to rise. Despite high levels of unemployment, domestic manufacturing companies are finding it difficult to fill positions, thanks in part to an attitudinal shift over the years wherein young people did not consider manufacturing a respectable or attractive trade.

Such attitudes are starting to change, as indicated by the surging enrollment at trade schools. The Dunwoody College of Technology in Minneapolis, for example, is experiencing its highest enrollment in years, with students young and old looking to take advantage of the growing number of available manufacturing positions. Thanks to high demand, the school has even introduced a six-month certificate program for the first time in its history.

Many manufacturers have bemoaned the lack of qualified machinists to fill positions, and those manufacturers are emphasizing that today's machinists must be computer literate and be skilled in computer-aided design and engineering. That increased demand for skilled workers has driven up their wages. In fact, a 2012 study from Georgetown University's Center for Education and the Workforce noted that 63 percent of workers with associate's degrees in the fields of science, technology, engineering or manufacturing earned more money than the average person with a bachelor's degree in the humanities or social sciences.

As trade schools continue to benefit from the return of manufacturing jobs, recent college graduates continue to find a job market that is less than welcoming. Analysis of government data for the Associated Press found that in early 2012 half of recent college graduates were either unemployed or underemployed (working in positions unrelated to their degree).

Such a reality has been advantageous to trade schools, which have become an increasingly attractive option for the masses of unemployed men and women.

Courtesy of Metro Creative
Look for alternatives to buying newest books for classes

In an era when digital books can be downloaded to an e-reader for a few dollars, students may feel it foolish to shell out several hundred dollars for a hardcover textbook that will only be used once. Many college students are shocked at the cost of their textbooks. In fact, many students do not take textbook costs into consideration when budgeting for school, only to have their jaws drop at the checkout counter of their campus bookstore.

The cost of textbooks has been an issue on college campuses for years. Many elementary and high school students do not have to pay directly for their textbooks, but college students must pay for their books.

There are a number of ways to curtail costs. One of the reasons behind the high sticker price for college textbooks is the copyright fees publishers of large anthologies must pay to every author who contributed to a book. Such costs can quickly add up. When there isn't a large demand for the books, publishers will not make much money if they don't charge more for the books.

Another reason for the high cost of textbooks is that some are accompanied by online companion resources. The publishers build the price of these resources into the cost of the book.

An additional contributing factor to students' high textbook tabs could be the faculty at their college or university. Some professors are not sensitive to the cost of books, selecting books they like or even ones they authored themselves without considering the price of such texts.

Supply and demand may also influence the cost of textbooks. When too many textbooks are in circulation, there is no longer a high demand. So publishers make money by continually issuing new volumes with an item or two changed to justify the purchase of a new book.

But as costly as textbooks can be, students can employ various methods to trim their textbook tabs.

- Purchase used textbooks whenever possible. Used textbooks may cost half as much as brand new texts. They may be highlighted or have notes in the margins, but if you can overlook these things, you can save money.
- Sell back textbooks. Keep textbooks in good condition and attempt to sell them back to either the campus bookstore or one near to the school. If the edition will be used again, you may be able to recoup a significant amount of the money you spent on the book.
- Shop around. Jot down the ISBN number for the particular textbook and then go online and price it out. Thanks to the Internet, you may find the book elsewhere for a significant discount over the in-store price on campus. There are also textbook rental services online.
- Look for alternative formats. With that ISBN number in hand, find out if there are digital or softcover versions of the textbook available. These formats may be more affordable and easier to lug around as well.
- Compare the old edition to the new. The new edition may have different page numbers or minor changes, but not enough to negate the value of the old edition. You can save a lot of money on an old edition.
- Share the book with a classmate. Make friends with someone in your class and share the costs and use of the book. Set up study and homework sessions to work together or make copies of particular chapters if you need to work solo.
- Consult with your financial aid counselor. Sometimes financial aid can offset the cost of textbooks. You might be eligible for aid to cover the cost of your textbooks throughout the school year.

Courtesy of Metro Creative

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Government redefines, adds new career categories

Not every career in the information age requires a four-year college degree. Several new job categories listed in the federal government's Occupational Outlook Handbook for 2014-15 require a certificate and on-the-job training. These careers may be more specialized than previously assessed by the government. Or they may represent a job that hasn't existed for long, such as a solar photovoltaic installer.

For more information, visit www.bls.gov and search by occupation title to get details on preparation and education needed for these new careers.

- Compensation, benefits, and job analysis specialists
- Computer network architects
- Emergency management directors
- Fundraisers
- Genetic counselors
- Information security analysts
- Nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners
- Phlebotomists
- Solar photovoltaic installers
- Training and development specialists
- Web developers
- Wind turbine technicians
OPEN HOUSES

Colleges welcome prospective students to visit campus

Northeastern Illinois University: You are invited to Northeastern Illinois University's Spring 2014 Open House on Thursday, March 6 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Explore all the opportunities that Northeastern has to offer both undergraduate and graduate students. You'll learn about our majors and programs in the arts and sciences, education, and business, meet with a financial aid advisor, visit with faculty and staff, and take a tour of our beautiful 67-acre main campus located in a residential neighborhood at 5500 N St Louis Ave. You'll also find out more about student clubs and organizations, and opportunities to develop your leadership skills. Register for the open house at www.neiu.edu/openhouse or call 773-583-4050.

East-West University: Tours of the EWU campus at 816 S. Michigan are typically available Monday-Friday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Please check for availability by calling 877-398-9376 (toll free) or contact us online. Group tours are also available and may include:

- A dynamic presentation on academic departments, future careers, and college funding options.
- An EWU student panel with time for questions.
- Hands-on lab experience in a variety of disciplines.
- A tour of our campus.

To get the most out of your visit, please give us three weeks to coordinate your campus appointments. Call 1-877-398-9376 (toll free) or contact us online at eastwest.edu/index.php/contactus.

National Louis University: The university has five campuses in the Chicagoland area, with a downtown campus and suburban sites in Elgin, Lisle, Skokie, and Wheeling. Call (888) 658-8632 for general and visit information. To schedule a student-led tour of the historically rich downtown campus at 122 S. Michigan, visit http://www.nl.edu/studentservices/studentexperience/campus-tours/tour/.

Governors State University: Prospective students are encouraged to schedule a visit two to three weeks in advance. Tours include a walk through the campus, a visit with a representative of a particular department upon request and information about degree programs. To schedule a visit, email rheidelberg@govst.edu.

The school is located at 1 University Parkway, University Park; (708) 534-5000.

University of Illinois at Chicago: Interested students are invited to tour the campus at 1200 W Harrison St. on special open house dates, schedule tour appointments, or take a self-guided tour. Offered most weekdays and Saturdays at 10 a.m., the first year information program is approximately two hours long. Each program begins with an overview of the University and its six undergraduate schools, student life, and the application process and financial aid, with time for a question/answer session at the end. Most visitors pair their information session with a campus tour. Student-led tours depart from our building immediately following information sessions, weather permitting.

Prospective students at the 1801 Hinman Ave., Evanston, campus may also visit a class or schedule an overnight visit. Reservations for all types of tours are available online at ugadm.northwestern.edu/visit/plan-your-visit/visit-calendar.html.

Purdue University-Calumet: The campus at 3200 169th St., Hammond, Ind., will host an open house on Saturday, April 12 at Alumni Hall.

Student Union Library. The day will include an overview of the university, a tour of academic departments, transfer student sessions, opportunities to meet with academic advisers and information on how to apply for admission. Reservations are requested by calling 219-989-2213 or visiting web.purduecal.edu/view-purdue/rsvp/.

Northwestern University: Our 45-minute information session, led by an admission director, provides an overview of the University and its

South Suburban College: Call the Office of Admissions at (708) 210-5710 and request to visit the campus. You will be transferred to one of our recruiters who will arrange a convenient time for your visit, and work out the necessary details. South Suburban is a community college located at 18800 State St., South Holland.

Check out www.ssc.edu.

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EAST WEST

East-West University is offering a 100%, 4-year tuition scholarship to one lucky winner.

Participants take an online quiz at www.eastwest.edu between now and 12:00 p.m. on Friday, April 4, 2014, and randomly selected winners will notified later that day.

Must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident that meets U.S. admission requirements to be eligible to win. The winner must maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average and full-time status continuously throughout the four years at EWU. Those who have already completed a bachelor's degree are not eligible. Other rules and restrictions apply. For more information on instructions, please go to www.eastwest.edu.

www.ssc.edu

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2015 Kia K900 joins luxury segment

BY JEFF TAYLOR
For Sun-Times Media

In the relatively short span of 20 years (as long as I've been writing reviews), Kia has elevated itself from a used car alternative to a "potential" Mercedes-Benz- and BMW-alternative with the all-new 2015 K900 premium sedan.

I say potential, as the K900 is the Korean automaker's first stake-in-the-ground in the luxury segment, and it's a pretty good one. Kia's premium offering starts at $59,500 and tops out at $65,500 for the V8 with VIP package. During a recent western drive program, I discovered there were a few areas of refinement still needed.

For the drive, Kia provided its top model, the V8 K900 VIP, but there will be a second V6 version this spring. The VIP features Kia's first V8 a 5.0L 420 horsepower engine mated to an eight-speed automatic transmission spinning the rear wheels and delivering 15 city/23 highway Environmental Protection Agency mileage numbers.

Visually, the K900 looks like a cross between Hyundai's outgoing Equus (the car with whom it shares a drivetrain/platform), the Lexus 460 and a Tesla Model S. The long 117.3-inch wheelbase and wide 63.8-inch front and 64.1-inch rear track of the V8 VIP, combined with thick sweeping C pillars/high rear deck, gives the K900 some road presence in the rear. Rolling stock on my test car consisted of standard 18-inch multi-spoke chrome wheels wrapped with 245/45R-19 tires (front) and (rear) 275/40R-19 tires.

The first time I opened the huge, vault-like rear door and sat down in the multi-colored white/grey/black wood and Nappa leather trimmed interior, I was briefly reminded of a Jaguar XJL. The cubic amount of head, leg, shoulder room is impressive, and with the seats adjusted slightly forward I felt like I was in an executive stretched version. The three-zone HVAC system kept the rear cool along with the all-window sun shades. A "Star Trek" mini-command console splits the rear seats on V8 VIP package cars, and provided both seats with multistage heating and cooling, independent recline and incorporated power lumbar support and lateral headrest adjustability. It was so comfortable I nodded off for a short while, and my co-driver missed a few turns for which I was supposed to provide directions. Other than the rear seats of the VIP package, the K900 comes with the typical set of features you would expect in an upscale sedan.

As such, a primo car demands a primo audio system and a 900-watt Lexicon high-fidelity audio system is loud and clear (with 17 speakers, 12-channel digital amplifier, and inverted subwoofer) it's the most powerful/advanced system ever offered by Kia.
## Best Values for Any Budget!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Make/Model</th>
<th>Stock#</th>
<th>Mileage</th>
<th>NOW*</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Mercedes-Benz C240 Sportwagon 2.6L</td>
<td>530207</td>
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<td>Ford Fiesta</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Cadillac SRX</td>
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<td>2010</td>
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<td>530715</td>
<td>34,025</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Toyota Camry Solara</td>
<td>530283</td>
<td>Mileage 174,270</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Porsche Boxster Conv'T</td>
<td>530991</td>
<td>Mileage 88,707</td>
<td>Now $11,897*</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Volkswagen Jetta</td>
<td>533531</td>
<td>Mileage 38,797</td>
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<td>Mileage 28,834</td>
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<td>Mileage 28,076</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
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<td>Mileage 30,784</td>
<td>Now $27,748*</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>BMW 328xi AWD CPE.</td>
<td>530587</td>
<td>Mileage 22,390</td>
<td>Now $28,897*</td>
</tr>
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</table>

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**BEYOND A GREAT DEAL IS A...**

**GROSSINGER DEAL!**

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**ROWS OF QUALITY PRE-DRIVEN VEHICLES ARE PRICED**

**WELL BELOW BLUE BOOK!**

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**TODRIVE**

**NO THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014**

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**BELOW A GOOD DEAL. IS A GREAT DEAL!**

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**TODRIVE**

**NO THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014**

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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Model</th>
<th>Year</th>
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Residents are being drawn to lifestyle’s convenience, amenities

BY JOHN ROBERTS
for Sun-Times Media

As the housing market continues to rebound, all segments appear to be doing well, and that includes attached housing — condominiums, townhouses, even high-end apartments.

According to a recent analysis done by RE/MAX, the median sales price for attached homes in the Chicago metro region was $135,000, a 23 percent year-over-year increase, compared to 18 percent gains achieved by the total market.

In terms of investment, attached housing enjoyed sales price increases across the board in every northern Illinois county. According to the RE/MAX report, in Cook County the median sales price gained 22 percent to $154,000. In DuPage, the median price was $129,000, an increase of 32 percent. In Kane, the median price was $110,000, an increase of 17 percent. In Kendall, the median sales price was $110,000, an increase of 26 percent. In Lake, the median price was $125,000, up 32 percent. McHenry saw a 6 percent increase to $95,250, and Will County saw a 12 percent rise to a median price of $118,000.

Attached housing near public transportation, especially Metra stations, is traditionally more popular, especially with younger buyers who work in the city and take the train.

From Tinley Park to Downers Grove to Crown Point, Ind., the trend in attached housing close to vibrant downtowns can be seen.

One development fitting that mold can be found in southwest suburban Orland Park. Ninety7Fifty On The Park is a trendy, upscale apartment high-rise development along 143rd Street at Southwest Highway, next to the Metra station.

Vito Zehier, regional property manager for Fialerty and Collins Properties, said the development offers renters a product and amenities package comparable to offerings in downtown Chicago previously unavailable in the southwest suburbs. Residents, he said, enjoy the convenience of a transit-oriented development that has easy access to Metra’s Southwest Service and is near an abundance of shopping, dining and recreation options.

“We have also experienced a number of ‘renters by choice’ who can truly afford to purchase a home but would rather rent for a number of reasons,” Zehier said.

The development features a gaming lounge, a heated swimming pool with fountains, a two-story health club, electric car charging stations, a café and an outdoor TV lounge with a fire pit and grilling stations. The development is nearly 80 percent leased, according to Zehier. The development ranges from three to six stories, with one-bedroom units starting at $1,375 per month and two-bedroom duplex units topping out at $2,250 per month.

“I feel that the forecasts for Chicago land to see strong employment growth throughout 2014 will generate continued rental demand,” Zehier said. “That demand will push vacancy down further and there will be a potential for strong rent growth.”

For more information about Ninety7Fifty On The Park, visit www.ninety7fifty.com or call (708) 364-1122.

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Auto Repair Needs More Women

By Jim MacPherson, Monster Contributing Writer

As customers, women play a significant role in the field of auto repair. While they make up just more than half of the US population, they deliver up to two-thirds of the vehicles brought in for maintenance or repair, according to Volvo.

However, the number of female technicians is another matter entirely. Out in the shop or up front where they could work as service writers or as service managers, women are significantly underrepresented in the field. "I think this is because [car repair] has never been considered a woman's field, but that is changing," says Jennifer Tio, president of the Car Care Council's Women's Board.

Old Methodology

For years, auto mechanics have been overwhelmingly male. Both men and women who have considered employment in the field have noted that the work was physically taxing, involving frequent heavy lifting and often requiring brute strength. It was dirty work, too. Mechanics could always be spotted by the grease and dirt under their fingernails.

Times Have Changed

Today's cars are different, and they require different approaches to servicing them. Mechanical systems that once required more muscle than intelligence to fix have become far more reliable and less needy of a mechanic's attention. Today, car problems are more likely to be caused by a defective electronic sensor than a bad transmission. As Wade Hoyt, Toyota's northeastern public relations manager, puts it, "The world of auto repair has gone from nuts and bolts to ohms and volts."

Auto service is now a brain game. Even the title of the people doing the work has changed -- mechanics are now technicians. For many in the field, this transition has been difficult or even impossible. People skilled with a wrench may be stymied by a computer or voltmeter.

Auto service departments increasingly need people with technical training in electronics, and the physical barriers women may have once felt when entering the field have largely disappeared.

Women Are Responding

Drawn by good pay and ample challenges, there are now more female auto technicians than ever. "Over the last five years, we've seen an increase in the number of women [training to be auto technicians], but the number still isn't where we'd like to see it," says Mark Berardi, an admissions representative for the New England Technical Institute, a private vocational school that trains auto technicians.

For those who do enter the field, the prospects are bright, according to Berardi. "There is absolutely a strong demand," he says. "Service stations and dealers want to diversify." They've noticed that most of their customers are women.

The Car Care Council has also seen more women noticing the auto repair field. "Last year, the Car Care Council's Women's Board gave out its first scholarships, and we had many applicants," Tio says. "Auto repair is becoming much more of a high tech field, and many women are becoming ASE certified."

Today, there is no reason why female auto technicians cannot be just as successful as, or even more successful than, male auto technicians. "The females in our program run circles around some of the guys," Berardi says. He also notes that women often do much better with the communications skills increasingly necessary to succeed in the field.

"This is a terrific, well-paying career for women," Tio says. "I've been in the field for 18 years, and I've seen tremendous growth [in opportunities for women]."
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NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NON-TAX REAL ESTATE FORECLOSURE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF COOK, CHANCERY DIVISION

Plaintiff vs. Defendants

The real estate is hereby sold pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure rendered in the above cause on December 19, 2013, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, Suite 1300, Chicago, IL 60602, at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount of the amount paid by the successful bidder. The successful bidder will receive a Certificate of Title, which will entitle the purchaser to the title to the foreclosed property. The purchaser will receive a Certificate of Title, which will entitle the purchaser to the title to the foreclosed property.

The sale will be conducted by The Judicial Sales Corporation, the agent for the plaintiff, at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the successful bidder. The successful bidder will receive a Certificate of Title, which will entitle the purchaser to the title to the foreclosed property. The purchaser will receive a Certificate of Title, which will entitle the purchaser to the title to the foreclosed property.

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NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to an order of possession in the above cause, the property described below will be offered for sale at public auction to the highest bidder, at 10:30 AM on March 7, 2014, at the hour of 11 am, in the lobbies of the One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash only, the highest bid by certified funds at the foreclosure sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650. The sale is subject to the terms and conditions appropriate for the sale, including the terms set forth in the Notice of Sale Public Notice. You may also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report on the property. For further information, you can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation's website at www.kalierirs.com or call (312) 476-5500. The sale is further subject to the terms and conditions of the sale, including the terms set forth in the Notice of Sale Public Notice. You may also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report on the property. For further information, you can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation's website at www.kalierirs.com or call (312) 476-5500.
This document appears to be a legal notice or a real estate auction notice. It contains information about a property located at 2113 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60647, scheduled for auction on March 19, 2014. The notice includes details about the property, the terms of the auction, and the contact information for more details. The notice is written in a formal legal style and contains sections on the property description, bidding conditions, and disclaimers. It is a document that would be relevant for anyone interested in real estate transactions or auctions.
Your #1 source for high school sports

Player Profiles | Team Schedules | Game Previews
Scores | Game Stories | Video Highlights | Photos

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 integrates 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.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Illinois Self-Storage Facility Act, a sale will be held on March 13th, 2014 at Life Storage of Little Village, 3245 West 30th Street, Chicago, IL 60623 (773) 376-8577. The contents of the below spaces will be sold at a public sale for cash, credit card, or certified funds. If there is no market value or no bids received, the goods will be otherwise disposed of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit#</th>
<th>Tenant Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1042</td>
<td>Jose Gonzalez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1072</td>
<td>Daniel Chairez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1074</td>
<td>Juan J. Olmedo</td>
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<tr>
<td>1264</td>
<td>Adrian Flangel</td>
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<tr>
<td>1265</td>
<td>Jorge Flores-Zepeda</td>
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<tr>
<td>1315</td>
<td>Dennis Saville</td>
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<tr>
<td>1371</td>
<td>Guadalupe Hernandez</td>
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<tr>
<td>1405</td>
<td>Edward Ramos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1412</td>
<td>Thelma Gonzalez</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PUBLIC NOTICE
Life Storage of Morton Grove will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Storage Facility Act Illinois Code 770 ILCS 95/1 to 95/7, on Wednesday, March 12th, 2014 at Life Storage at Morton Grove, 6505 West Oakton Street, Morton Grove, Illinois, 60053, 847-966-1899. Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold As Is Parts Only, no titles or registration.

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U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2014 758078 Westside
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISE STATUTES, CHAPTER 114, PARAGRAPH 301, ET. SEQ.

Notice is hereby given that on March 6, 2014, BID2WIN Auctioneer & Storage Clerk for U-Haul Co. North Shore Chicago will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash, credit or debit only. U-Haul Co. of North Shore Chicago reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sales will be at the following location, 1700 N Cicero N Cicero Ave. Chicago, IL 60639 and will be at or after 2:45pm and continue until all units are sold.

Lewis Berman
5115 W Oakton Chicago, IL 60639
Unit A106: Sofa, Bikes & Boxes

Sandra Smith
422 N Lavergne Chicago, IL 60644
Unit B126: Minivan & Bikes

John Doe
1700 N Cicero Ave Chicago, IL 60639
Unit A134: Mattresses

Donald Johnson
542 N Pine Chicago, IL 60644
Unit A105: AC units, Grill, Fridge, DVD player & Boxes

Shanti Yarkeshi
1304 N Monroe Chicago, IL 60644
Unit B111: Chairs, AC unit, Luggage, Bike, Tool & Racks

Kamala Patel
1433 N Kilbourn Ave. Chicago, IL 60651
Unit B108: Bags

Charles Benton
4443 Cortez Chicago, IL 60611
Unit B150: Sofa, TV stand & Chair

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Senior Vice President
Regional Director
(312) 592-5645
chip.flannagan@wellsfargo.com

**Colleen McCaffery**
Senior Vice President
Wealth Advisor
(312) 592-5659
mccaffc1@wellsfargo.com

* $19.85 billion as of 4/30/2013
Boka reopening
The contemporary American restaurant recently revealed the fruits of their head-to-toe revamp: a renovated dining room with dark wood floors and large black leather banquettes, ideal for digging into new head chef Lee Wolen's creations, such as slow-cooked lemon sole ($28).

Magnolia Bakery Oscar cupcakes
Take home the award for sweetest treats with confections such as the Black-Tie cupcake, topped with vanilla and chocolate icing and sprinkled with gold dust ($3.50 each), or the Best Picture cupcakes, decorated with 2014's best movie titles (above, $60 per dozen). 108 N. State; Magnoliabakery.com.

Victoria Sdoukos jewelry
Though she specializes in couture bridal wear, the Chicago designer also offers high-end jewelry that's wearable beyond the wedding day. Using Swarovski crystals, rhinestones and pearls, Sdoukos also customizes pieces based on her clients' personal style. Starting at $225; Victoriasdoukoscouture.com.

Oscar bingo
You might not be up for an Academy Award, but you can still fuel your competitive side with these cheeky Oscar bingo cards created by Amanda Puck, EVP of XA Experiential Agency and co-host of the Gene Siskel Film Center's Academy Awards party. Find event info in our Calendar (page 5) and download the complete bingo set at Chicagosplash.com.
A Magnificent Smile—IT'S WELLER WHITE

Want to get glowing with cosmetic dentistry? Just ask around. The name you’ll keep hearing on the Magnificent Mile is Dr. Jeffrey Weller. Whatever you choose, from gorgeous veneers and cosmetic dental implants to regular care and cleanings, your smile will feel so good and look so natural, it will leave your friends spellbound.

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THE CALENDAR
BY THOMAS CONNORS

- ARTS & CULTURE | - PHILANTHROPY | - FOOD | - FASHION

this week

Last year's Tickled Pink for Bright Pink

February 28
TICKLED PINK FOR BRIGHT PINK
Walk the pink carpet, hit the dance floor and enjoy refreshments from top restaurants at this annual bash, created and hosted by Paramount Events co-owner Jodi Fyfe. Proceeds benefit Bright Pink, a national nonprofit focused on the prevention and early detection of breast and ovarian cancer in young women.
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: Block 37, 108 N. State
Cost: $95 in advance, $125 at the door.
For tickets, visit TickledPinkchicago.com.

February 25-March 2
- 'CHICAGO'
Girls behaving badly in 1920s Chicago is what propels this ever-engaging musical from the dynamite songwriting team of Kander and Ebb. John Hurley, best known as J. Peterman from "Seinfeld," stars as the slick attorney Billy Flynn, who spins both public opinion and the jury's verdict in his clients' favor.
Place: Bank of America Theatre, 18 W. Monroe
Cost: $30-$95. For tickets, call (800) 775-2000 or visit Broadwayinchicago.com.

February 28
- BLACKBOARD AFFAIR: A MASQUERADE BALL
Working in the Schools (WITS) shakes things up with this bash. Don your best creative black-tie attire, complete with mask, and enjoy an open bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres, dancing and a raffle. Proceeds help WITS promote literacy and learning among elementary students in Chicago Public Schools through a bevy of dynamic, volunteer-powered programs.
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington
Cost: $100 or $150. For tickets, visit Witschicago.org/wits-bba.

CHICAGOSPLASH.COM | FEBRUARY 23-MARCH 1, 2014
February 28

- **ANIMAL MAGNETISM**
  PAWS Chicago — the local organization whose commitment to animal welfare includes adoptions, spay/neuter programs and shelter medicine — welcomes supporters to this benefit evening of cocktails and dancing. Allison Victoria, host of DIY Network's "Kitchen Crashers," and 103.5 KISS FM's Brotha Fred host.

- **THE GOSPEL OF LOVINGKINDNESS**
  The Bronzeville-set drama — a world premiere from playwright Marcus Gardley directed by Chay Yew — explores the impact of a senseless killing on both the mother of the victim and the mother of the perpetrator.
  Time: 7:30 p.m.
  Place: Victory Gardens Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln
  Cost: $20-$40 through Feb. 29, $30-$60 thereafter. For tickets, call (773) 871-3000, or visit victorgardens.org.

- **THE RED CARPET**
  Center on Halsted welcomes film fans to this Oscar Night benefit at Park West, featuring cocktails, a buffet dinner, raffle and silent auction. Proceeds support the Center’s efforts on behalf of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) community of Chicagoland.
  Time: 6 p.m.
  Place: 322 W. Armitage
  Cost: $40, $75 or $125. For tickets, visit Centeronhalsted.org/specialevents.html.

- **CHOCOLATE IS LOVE**
  Benefiting scholarships and after-school tuition assistance programs of Chicago Children’s Choir, this music-filled afternoon features a slew of sweet desserts, a silent auction and performances from the Choir’s programs, including the after-school Neighborhood Chors, DiMension and Voice of Chicago singers, plus special sets from guest artists Shelby MacArthur, Rodrick Dixon and Alfreda Burke.
  Time: Noon
  Place: Union League Club, 65 W. Jackson
  Cost: Adults $75, children 12 and under $25, family of four $150. For tickets, visit Ccchor.org/events/upcomingevents.html.

March 2

- **HOLLYWOOD ON STATE**
  Chicago’s longest-running Academy Awards viewing party is back. Host Amanda Puck, EVP of PR for XA The Experiential Agency, will work the red carpet as guests enjoy a spread from Pure Kitchen Catering and suitably festive libations. The big show will be shown on the Gene Siskel Film Center’s two state-of-the-art screens.
  Time: 6 p.m.
  Place: 164 N. State
  Cost: $100 general admission, $200 VIP. For tickets, call (312) 846-2072 or visit Siskelfilmcenter.org/hollywoodonstate2014.

- **CHICAGO’S 177TH BIRTHDAY**
  Our fair city turns the big 177 this year, and Daley Plaza is holding the official birthday party. Drop by Daley Plaza all day and enjoy sweets and savories from local food trucks such as Flirty Cupcakes and Windy City Patty Wagon, free cake from Eli’s Cheesecake, live music and more.
  Time: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
  Place: Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington
FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME

It was game on at the Hilton Chicago (720 S. Michigan) Feb. 10, as nearly 700 athletes, fans and supporters united at the 26th annual Comcast SportsNet Sports Awards. Guests enjoyed an evening of cocktails, a silent auction and a presentation honoring Chicago athletes from all of our sports teams, including Martellus Bennett, Nazr Mohammed, Patrick Sharp, Welington Castillo, Nate Jones, Stan Mikita, Mike Magee and Alyssa Gialamas, for their contributions to their teams and communities. The event scored big, raising $440,000 for March of Dimes, which fights to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality.

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

REMINDING ROGER

John David Mooney, Chaz Ebert and Jon Vickers

Life Itself," a documentary based on the memoir of longtime Sun-Times film critic and Pulitzer Prize winner Roger Ebert, made its Gene Siskel Film Center debut Feb. 10. Nearly 200 guests filled the theater to honor Ebert's legacy, including the film's director Steve James, Ebert's widow Chaz and his longtime friends Marlene Iglitzen (Gene Siskel's widow) and Thea Flamm (creator of WTTW's "Sneak Previews"), who were welcomed on stage after the screening for a Q&A session. Later, the crowd — including backers of the film's Indiegogo campaign, which raised more than $100,000 — mingled, swapping stories about the late writer. "Life Itself," produced by local nonprofit Kartemquin Films, will be distributed by Magnolia Pictures this summer. — Katerina Bizios
Summon spring by embracing lush blush and bright pink. The color radiates femininity, making it the perfect complement for form-flattering cuts like mermaid dresses and empire silhouettes. On the spring runway, Elie Saab showed his softer side, opening the show with a sequence of lovely lace dresses, shorts and skirts, all in a salmon shade. Meanwhile, Kate Spade New York's collection delivered a retro-inspired punch of hot pink in everything from flared dresses to tweed jackets. Whether you go bold with neon or muted with blush, a rosy hue by any other name is just as sweet.
About Face
Welcome spring with open arms in a pop-art tank from Lulu's on the Avenue

Head to the
Splash Shop
An online marketplace at splashshop.suntimes.com

The city's top chefs cooked up signature dishes for more than 900 guests at the Saint-Tropez-themed 17th annual Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Grand Chefs Gala Jan. 31. The Fairmont Chicago Millennium Park's (200 N. Columbus) ballrooms were transformed into exotic getaways for the bash, replete with bright orchid centerpieces, tall palm leaves and food stations with custom cocktails by local mixologists. The evening paid tribute to late chef Jean Banchet by honoring the best chefs, pastry chefs, restaurants, sommeliers and mixologists in Chicago with an award presentation. Later, a live auction included prizes such as a private home tour and cooking demonstration with Rick Bayless, a trip to the French Riviera with stays in Saint-Tropez and Monaco and trips to Switzerland and the Canadian Rockies. Proceeds totaled $550,000 to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's mission to find a cure.
— Katerina Bizis

Right: Mike and Bonnie Balkin

PHOTOS BY GALDONES
PHOTOGRAPHY AND CHRIS GUILL/en
Natalie Martinez & Flavio Gama

BY KRISTIN LARSON

Natalie Martinez and Flavio Gama are living proof that absence indeed makes the heart grow fonder. The pair spent the duration of their relationship separated by nearly 5,000 miles — Martinez, a reporter for NBC, is based in Chicago, and Gama, a personal trainer, lived in Brazil until recently relocating to Chicago. But flying back and forth over the course of a decade only inspired a deeper connection, and the duo tied the knot Jan. 18 at Cheeca Lodge and Spa in Islamorada, Fla. "Ours is a true love story," says Martinez, recalling the couple's chance meeting in 2002. Martinez and a friend had planned a trip to Turks and Caicos, but at the last minute, her friend cancelled. Determined not to miss the vacation, Martinez continued on alone — a decision that led her to Gama, the resort's sailing instructor and her future husband. "We instantly hit it off," she says. "We just knew there was something special there." The two celebrated that deep bond during their weekend-long wedding in the Keys, kayaking, hosting beachside dinners and dancing to steel drums with friends and family. For Martinez, it was the perfect ending to their longtime romance. "When I saw all these people who had never met come together from two different continents and adore each other, I knew this was all worth it."

CHEERS!

- Luxe hi-rise developers Steve and Randy Fifield are flying even higher this week: Their daughter Alexa was accepted to the prestigious London School of Economics and Political Science.
- SPLASH first met former Lanvin Assistant Store Director Marissa Gillman last summer when her wedding was featured on this page. Now, we're following her to the Michael Kors Collection store at 900 N. Michigan, where she recently accepted the position of general manager.

IT'S IN THE DETAILS

Gown: Lauderdale Bride; Lauderdalebride.com
Venue: Cheeca Lodge and Spa; Cheecacom
Groom's attire: Hugo Boss; Hugoboss.com; Men's Wearhouse; Menswearhouse.com
Groomsman's attire: Salvatore Ferragamo; Ferragamo.com
Musicians: Reel Ting reggae band; Reelting.com
Photographer: Elite Life Studio; Elitelifestudio.com
Rings: C.A. Jewelers, 7 S. Wabash; Cajewelers.com

SEND US YOUR CHEERS!

If you have good news to share — or if you'd like your wedding featured — send a note to Splash on suntimes.com.
Great catch

Get hooked on sustainable, surprising seafood at **Kinmont**

**BY RACHEL HANDLER**

Roasted fish, steak tartare and smoked carrots

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BY RACHEL HANDLER

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**ne man's trash is another man's treasure** isn't a phrase that's generally applied to food. But Duncan Biddulph, executive chef at River North's recently opened Kinmont, is out to change that. "We're committed to serving sustainable seafood with a strong emphasis on 'rough fish'— stuff that's traditionally thrown away, but that's just as tasty as [what] people eat all the time," he says.

Though occasionally unfamiliar, the dishes Biddulph concocts at the Element Collective-owned spot (Old Town Social, Nellcôte) rank among the most delicious in Chicago. Rotating "rough" selections include triggerfish, cobia and amberjack, all sourced from local suppliers and individual fishermen. But Kinmont doesn't entirely eschew seafood mainstays—Biddulph also preps pan-roasted mussels ($12), Maine lobster ($45) and a raw bar stocked with oysters (six for $12-$16) and Alaskan crab legs ($26).

According to Biddulph, his rough-fish fixation makes Kinmont the "first Chicago restaurant to focus exclusively on sustainable seafood," he says. "It's a natural extension of what you're seeing in restaurants already: buying produce from local farms, buying humanely raised meats. [The rough fish movement] has to do with the well-being of our oceans. Our benchmark is the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch. We'll never have a fish on our menu that's marked 'avoid'—we're making really informed choices."

Here's what else to expect at Kinmont:

**Chef stats:** After graduating from culinary school at the Illinois Institute of Art, Biddulph worked his way up to sous chef at Logan Square's Lula Cafe. He served as executive chef at Rootstock before Kinmont lured him in.

**Reel talk:** Kinmont is short for Kinmont Willie, a 19th-century fly-fishing lure popular with anglers who felt similarly protective of our sea-dwelling friends. "These guys were the original conservationists, dedicated to making sure that they had a positive impact on their surrounding environment," says Biddulph.

**Vibe:** Retro, rustic Americana, paying homage to Midwestern fly-fishing roots. Timber beams, butcher-block tables and lanterns hanging from hooks evoke an old-school lodge, while vintage chandeliers and Oriental rugs suspended from the ceiling add elegance.

**Bottoms up:** Head bartender Jason Brown's cocktail list comprises both original creations—like the Old Grand Dad Bonded bourbon and egg-white based Barbary Falcon ($11)—and pre-Prohibition classics. Try the Alaska, a 1920s throwback made with Beefeater gin, yellow Chartreuse and orange bitters ($10).

**Must-try dish:** Kinmont's version of the iconic Door County whitefish chowder, chock full of bacon, potatoes and cream ($7). What makes it so mouthwatering? "There's nothing compromised about it," says Assistant Manager Matt Hutchins. "It's as good as it can possibly be."

**Figweddings**

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419 W Superior, (312) 915-0011; Kinmontrestaurant.com

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419 W Superior, (312) 915-0011; Kinmontrestaurant.com
Friday, February 28
7 p.m.
Galleria Marchetti
825 West Erie Street, Chicago

Event Tickets
$125/person | $25/pet
Reserve your tickets
> pawschicago.org

Presented by:
Sponsored by:
Melissa & Mike Canning
Mike Cora & Wanda Laszcz
Peter & Paula Fasseas

PAWS CHICAGO

Visit our Cause & Event page on our website at
Splash.suntimes.com/events for event photo galleries
GET GALA-READY

For George's tips on what to wear to some of the hottest spring galas in town, check out our Gala Guide on the next page.

BRO*RGHE

Fashion insider & Skokie native, George Kotsiopoulos adds Hollywood glam to everyday style

BY KATIE SCHROEDER

When George Kotsiopoulos says a woman "looks like a movie star" on E's "Fashion Police," it's his highest form of praise. But now, you don't have to be Jennifer Lawrence or Scarlett Johansson to garner these rave reviews: The fashion industry vet and TV personality is sharing his secrets for creating red-carpet-worthy looks every day in his new book, Glamorous by George: The Key to Creating Movie Star Style. "I've styled hundreds of celebrities during my career, so I've learned a thing or two," Kotsiopoulos says. "But I've also styled many 'real' women of every age, shape, size and socioeconomic background, and they all share the same woes about getting dressed. Being glamorous is not just about the hair, makeup and clothing. It's how you present yourself in every aspect of your life."

Covering everything from showing the "right" amount of skin to dressing for your body type to throwing a stylish fête, Kotsiopoulos' first book is a guide to living a more elegant lifestyle — and according to Kotsiopoulos, it's simpler than you might think. His favorite entertaining tip? "Dim the lights! I cannot tell you how many parties I've gone to where the lighting is as bright as a supermarket, and no one needs that much detail at a cocktail party." If you don't have dimmers, go old-school and stock up on inexpensive votive candles — guests will appreciate the flattering lighting and it makes any venue look more romantic.

In addition to promoting his new tome and hosting his hit show on E, Kotsiopoulos is also the brand and style ambassador for the Gap Outlet's new 2014 collections, meaning he'll star in the spring and summer ad campaigns and travel the country to make in-store appearances. "I'm really excited about this because I've been a fan of all things Gap since I was in grade school," says the North Shore native. "I worked at Lord & Taylor at Old Orchard, but I would spend my paychecks at this huge Gap on Skokie Boulevard. It's just the coolest thing for my 12-year-old self to be doing.

Meet Kotsiopoulos and pick up a copy of his new book at a cocktail party at Swarovski (340 N. Michigan) March 4 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. RSVP by calling (312) 664-0130.
LETS GO GALA-VANTING

All the need-to-know details for the city's spring lineup of black-tie events

MARCH

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S BLACK & WHITE BALL

Why go: This premier black-tie gala, which has raised more than $1.7 million in the last four years, benefits the nation's largest community-based volunteer organization supporting cancer research and treatment for the estimated 1.7 million cancer cases expected to be diagnosed in the U.S. this year.

What to wear: The name says it all — don your best black-tie style.

Jon Harris and Diane Whatton of the Lookingglass Theatre's Gglassquerade

“Ethereal metallics are a big trend for spring and would work well for the celestial theme. Take a look at the Lanvin, Rochas, Oscar de la Renta and Salvatore Ferragamo collections for some ideas.”

— George Kotsiopoulos

LITTLE CITY'S SEEING HOPE TOGETHER POKER TOURNAMENT AND CASINO NIGHT

Why go: For more than 50 years, Little City has been serving children and adults with autism and other intellectual and developmental disabilities so that they may lead safe, productive and healthy lives.

Who you'll see: Whether you're a card shark or gambling novice, enjoy an evening of Texas Hold 'em and casino games, as well as an all-night buffet and open bar. When it's time to break from the tables, visit the on-site Spex boutique to view new spring eyewear collections while kicking back.

What to wear: You'll maintain a better poker face when you're comfortable, so opt for casual attire.

What's at stake: Poker players will vie for the grand championship prize: a seat at the World Series of Poker, valued at $10,000.

Pro tip: Arrive promptly at 6 p.m. and learn how to play like a pro with a tutorial from card experts during cocktail hour.

When: March 7, 6 p.m., cards in the air at 7:15 p.m.

Where: The Montgomery Club, 500 W. Superior

Tickets: $150 per casino player/spectator, $250 per poker player. Visit littlecity.org/poker.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES OF CHICAGOLAND & NORTHWEST INDIANA PRESENTS BIG MAC UNDER GLASS: AN EVENING IN THE EMERALD CITY

Why go: The purchase price of one ticket will help a family heal together for one week at Ronald McDonald House, which provides a home-away-from-home for families of hospitalized children.

Who you'll see: Event co-chairs Jeff Cantalupo, Lorraine Klemz and Ken Norgan, as well as more than 900 civic, corporate and philanthropic leaders.

When: March 1, 5:30 p.m.

Where: Westin Lombard Yorktown Center, 70 Yorktown Center, Lombard

Tickets: $250. Visit ACSB/blackwhiteball.com

LOOKINGGLASS THEATRE'S GGLASS-QUERADE

Why go: Themed "A Celestial Evening," this gala celebrates the company's 26th season of professional, ensemble-based theater in Chicago.

Who you'll see: Join co-chairs Jon Harris of Hillshire Brands Company and Diane Whatton of BMO Harris Bank, along with master of ceremonies and ensemble member Joey Slotnick, in honoring ComEd President and CEO Anne Pramagloire with the Lookingglass Civic Engagement Award for her support of the Chicago theater community. And we always have our eyes peeled for Lookingglass co-founder David Schvimmer.

What to wear: Not quite sure what to make of "urban chic cocktail attire"? Take a traditional cocktail look and add a dose of drama.

Who's onstage: Live band Final Say will have guests dancing to rock and pop hits from the '60s to today.

Pro tip: Don't delay — table sponsorship is sold out and a limited number of individual tickets are still up for grabs.

When: March 1, 5:30 p.m.

Where: Westin Lombard Yorktown Center, 70 Yorktown Center, Lombard

Tickets: $250. Visit Acsblackwhiteball.com

CHICAGOSPLASH.COM | FEBRUARY 23-MARCH 1, 2014
**CAMP KESEM’S FAMILY NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM**

**Why go:** This unique fundraising gala invites families for an evening of philanthropy, discovery and fun at The Field Museum, to benefit Camp Kesem’s programs supporting children affected by a parent’s cancer.

**Who you’ll see:** Chicagoans Dara and Richard Levy are the 2014 honorees.

**What to wear:** Smart casual or cocktail attire

**For the adults:** Walk the red carpet and then enjoy dinner and a live auction.

**For the kids:** Scavenger hunts, arts and crafts, camp songs, and games are set up throughout the museum.

**Pro tip:** The live auction features one-of-a-kind experiences with the Chicago Cubs, Chicago White Sox and Chicago Bears; a dinner party for 12 prepared by a celebrity chef; and a luxury travel itinerary in Napa Valley wine country.

**When:** March 8, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**Where:** The Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore

**Tickets:** $150 per adult, $50 per child. Visit Familynightatthemuseum.org.

**ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM’S HUMANITARIAN AWARDS DINNER**

**Why go:** Support the museum’s mission to preserve the legacy of the Holocaust and honor those who strive to remember the past and positively influence the future.

**Who you’ll see:** 2014 honorees John A. Canning Jr., co-founder and chairman of Madison Dearborn Partners LLC, and Thomas S. Ricketts, chairman of the Chicago Cubs and Incapital LLC, both receive Humanitarian Awards, and Richard S. Hirschhaut, founding executive director of the Illinois Holocaust Museum, will accept the Distinguished Community Leadership Award.

**Who’s onstage:** Listen as Nobel Peace Laureate Dr. Henry Kissinger, who served as U.S. Secretary of State from 1973 to 1977, gives the keynote address.

**What to wear:** Cocktail attire

**When:** March 20, 5:30 p.m. reception, 6:30 p.m. dinner

**Where:** Hyatt Regency Chicago, 151 E. Wacker

**Tickets:** $400. Visit Humanitarianawardsdinner.org

**MISERICORDIA WOMEN’S AUXILIARY SPRING LUNCHEON AND FASHION SHOW**

**Who you’ll see:** Sister Rosemary Connelly, executive director of Misericordia, is an icon of the Chicago philanthropy scene, and 700-800 ladies who lunch (and a few gents too!) will be there to support her.

**Who’s onstage:** Saks Fifth Avenue presents a runway show of 2014 spring trends and fashions.

**What to wear:** Daytime dresses — spring colors encouraged — are appropriate, and we’ve even spotted a few statement hats in past years.

**Pro tip:** Have a date conflict? Support the charity by shopping at its Hearts and Flour Bakery, which employs adults from the Misericordia community and serves the best soda bread this side of the Atlantic.

**When:** March 27, 10:30 am.

**Where:** The Palmer House Hilton, 17 E. Monroe

**Tickets:** $175. Visit Misericordia.com.

**COMMON GROUND AWARDS GALA AND FUNDRAISER**

**Why go:** Founded by Grammy Award winner, actor and philanthropist Lonnie Rashid Lynn Jr., better known as LL Cool J, the Common Ground Awards gala invites families for a seated lunch (and a few gents too), and honor those who strive to remember the past and positively influence the future.

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Common, the Common Ground Foundation raises much-needed funds to serve children ages 13-15 in Chicago's South and West side communities through Common's Dreamers and BelieveYouth Mentoring Program and Summer Camp.

Who you'll see: This fourth annual event recognizes nationally and internationally acclaimed personalities in entertainment, business and community service. Past honorees have included Magic Johnson, Olympic gold medalist Gabrielle Douglas, and business and civic powerhouse couple Quintin Douglas, and business and civic power couple Quintin Douglas, and Diane Primo, so expect a star-studded red carpet for 2014.

When: March 29, 6 p.m.
Where: Fairmont Chicago Millennium Park, 200 N. Columbus

APRIL

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION'S CHICAGO HEART BALL
Why go: Since 1982, this event has raised more than $14 million to fight heart disease and stroke.

Who you'll see: Co-chairs Jami and Paul J. Burt host more than 800 of Chicago's civic and business leaders. Schneider Electric is recognized as this year's corporate honoree, and longtime American Heart Association supporters Joan and Paul Rubschlager receive the Coeur d'Or award.

Who's onstage: Dance to live music and powerhouse vocals by Lynne Jordan and the Shivers while dessert is served.

What to wear: Your black-tie best.

Pro tip: Preview the live and silent auction online, and prior to the event, download the American Heart Association Heart Ball app so that you may keep a close eye on the status of your silent auction items all evening long.

When: April 12, 6 p.m.
Where: Navy Pier Grand Ballroom, 600 E. Grand
Tickets: $1,000. Visit Chicagoheartball.ahaevents.org.

CHICAGO CUBS CHARITIES' BRICKS & IVY BALL
Why go: Support the Chicago Cubs Charities, which funds organizations and programs dedicated to improving health, fitness and educational opportunities for at-risk youth.

Who you'll see: Members of the Chicago Cubs family — including team owner Tom Ricketts, President of Baseball Operations Theo Epstein and current and former players — join more than 800 civic, corporate and philanthropic leaders for this special event, which includes a Champagne toast to the 100th anniversary of Wrigley Field.

What to wear: Business or cocktail attire — blue and red is always a good choice.

Pro tip: Bring your checkbook because there are some amazing Cubs experiences in the silent and live auctions.

When: April 23, 6 p.m.

THE PEGGY NOTEBAERT NATURE MUSEUM'S BUTTERFLY BALL
Why go: This 16th annual gala is the Nature Museum's largest annual fundraiser to support its education programs.

Who's onstage: Illinois Tool Works receives the inaugural Award for Leadership in Support of Science Education.

Who you'll see: Co-chairs Matthew and Lisa Harrington, Rock and Manisha Khanna, and Lisa Pollina host 700 guests for an elegant evening of dinner and dancing.

What to wear: Black-tie attire

When: May 2, 6 p.m.
Where: The Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, 2430 N. Cannon

PRAGUE ON THE POTOMAC BALL
Why go: Celebrating its 50th anniversary, the Prague on the Potomac Ball is the signature event of Clearbrook, which supports more than 6,000 individuals with disabilities and their families annually.

Who's onstage: The Dan Hayes Orchestra will have guests dancing to everything from Motown to contemporary hits until midnight.

What to wear: Black-tie attire

Pro tip: Snag a $50 raffle ticket (or six for $250) for a chance to win four tickets to a Chicago Bulls game or a $1,000 gift card to Crate & Barrel. The grand prize winner will walk away with $5,000 cash — perfect for making an additional donation that evening (hint, hint).

When: April 25, 7 p.m. cocktail reception, 8 p.m. dinner and live auction.
feature | SPRING GALA GUIDE

Where: Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, 120 E. Delaware

CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S AROUND THE WHIRL IN 80 YEARS

Why go: This special evening, hosted by the Women's Board and the Board of Trustees of the Chicago Zoological Society, commemorates the 80th anniversary of the Brookfield Zoo.

Who you'll see: More than 700 corporate and civic leaders attend this annual spring gala, helping to raise funds to support the animals at Brookfield Zoo and the conservation, education and animal welfare programs of the Chicago Zoological Society.

What to wear: Black-tie attire

Pro tip: In years past, we've enjoyed the opportunity to get up close and personal with some of the zoo's exotic residents.

When: April 26, 6:30 p.m. reception, 8 p.m. dinner
Where: Brookfield Zoo, 3300 Golf Road, Brookfield
Tickets: $600. Visit Pjhchicago.com/event/zoo or brookfieldzoo.org.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S DISCOVERY BALL

Why go: Nationally recognized as one of the premier cancer fundraising events, this event has garnered $16 million to support the American Cancer Society since 2007.

Who's onstage: Guest emcee Kathy Brock of ABC-7 gets the party started and live band Maggie & the Republic keep the night long in the sea of corporate and civic leaders attending this event.

Who's onstage: Grammy-nominated, all-female mariachi trio Ella will delight guests during cocktail hour.

Who you'll see: Hometown girl and Splash columnist Jenny McCarthy hosts the seventh annual event alongside Jacqueline Laurita of the "Real Housewives of New Jersey." Event creators Michele and Peter Doyle will also be on hand.

What to wear: Go easy, breezy and fashion-forward in LA chic.

Pro tip: Sponsors will get a special meet-and-greet with celebrity attendees before the event.

When: May 9, 7:30 p.m.
Where: Venue One, 1044 W. Randolph

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MEXICAN ART'S GALA DE ARTE: SUEÑOS Y ESPERANZAS (DREAMS AND HOPES)

Why go: Celebrate the richness and beauty of Mexican culture by supporting the National Museum of Mexican Art, which houses more than 7,000 Mexican art pieces accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

Who you'll see: Corporate chair Anne Pramaggiore, president and CEO of ComEd, gala co-chairs Yolanda Stemmer and Jessica Priego, and the evening's emcee John Quinones from ABC-7.

What to wear: Add a little creative flair to traditional black tie.

Who's onstage: Grammy-nominated, all-female mariachi trio Ella will delight guests during cocktail hour.

Among the 600 attendees, expect to see renowned artists and nationally recognized honorees.

When: May 2, 6 p.m.
Where: Fairmont Chicago Millennium Park, 200 N. Columbus

STEPPENWOLF THEATRE COMPANY'S ANNUAL GALA

Why go: This annual gala raises more than $1 million for Steppenwolf's artistic, educational and community programming. Enjoy live performances, cocktails, a gourmet dinner and live auction, followed by dancing and entertainment.

Who you'll see: Co-chairs Lawrence Gill and Christine Albright, and Terry and Kathleen Jenkins.

What to wear: City-chic attire, which we think of as dressy cocktail with a fashionable edge.

Who's onstage: The evening kicks off with an exclusive showcase of scenes from the world premiere production of "The Way West" by Mona Mansour and directed by ensemble member Amy Morton, and ends with dancing to live music by Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band plus a late-night DJ set.

When: May 3, 6:30 p.m.
Where: Steppenwolf's Downstairs Theatre, 1650 N. Halsted
Tickets: $1,000. Visit Steppenwolf.org or email Specialevents@steppenwolf.org.

ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE'S BIENNIAL GALA

Why go: With a fundraising goal of $750,000 to help maintain the 117-year-old organization's French language classes, cultural programs and active library, the Women's Board has planned an evening themed "Red Carpet at the Monte Carlo Casino."

Who you'll see: Gala co-chairs Lisa W. Bailey and Veronique Bushala, along with honorary co-chair Betsy N. Pinkert, welcome guests for an evening of casino games like roulette, baccarat and trente et quarante.

What to wear: When choosing black-tie attire, channel the glamour of Casablanca and don your French

National Museum of Mexican Arts Gala de Arte: Suenos y Esperanzas (Dreams and Hopes)
BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF CHICAGO'S SUMMER BALL

Why go: The Woman's Board of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago (BGCC) hosts its 65th anniversary summer soiree to raise funds for BGCC's after-school programs, which provide a safe haven for children ages 6-18.

Who you'll see: Six hundred community tastemakers are welcomed by a group of nine notable Chicago women: Woman's Board president Beth White and Summer Ball co-chairs Virginia Bobins, Linda Gantz, Marty Higginson, Bonnie Stearns, Renée Crown, Ellen O'Connor, Karen Gray and Barbara Pearlman.

Who's onstage: Vocal group Under the Streetlamp performs classic doo-wop, Motown and old-school rock ‘n’ roll hits. And with an ensemble composed of members of the Tony Award-winning show Jersey Boys, these retro faves have never sounded so good.

What to wear: Black-tie attire

When: May 31, 6:30 p.m. cocktail reception, 8 p.m. dinner, live auction and entertainment

Where: Navy Pier Grand Ballroom, 600 E. Grand


THE GOODMAN THEATRE GALA

Why go: Themed “A Dream Evening,” this signature fundraiser benefits Goodman’s theater education and community initiative programs.

Who you’ll see: Gala co-chairs Joan Clifford, Andrea Press and Lorraine Weiss are planning an elegant affair for a few hundred of Chicago’s theater patrons and business and civic leaders.

What to wear: Traditional black-tie attire

Who’s onstage: Special guest Emmy and Tony Award-winner Kristin Chenoweth (above) performs Broadway show tunes from “Wicked” and “Promises, Promises,” as well as songs from her new album “Some Lessons Learned.” Following the performance, guests enjoy dinner and dancing to live music by Gentlemen of Leisure.

When: May 17, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan

Tickets: $1,000. Call (312) 443-3811, ext. 586.

THE SERVICE CLUB'S SPRING LUNCHEON: HATTITUDE

Why go: Support The Service Club of Chicago’s mission to assist charitable, civic and educational organizations since 1890.

Who you’ll see: Co-chairs Ann Gerber, Lezley Hodes, Karen Peters and Mamie Walton draw a crowd of Chicago’s influential, philanthropic-minded women.

What to wear: Take a cue from the theme and dress to impress with a chic fascinator or stately hat in bright, spring colors. In other words, add some “hattitude” to your look.

Pro tip: This spring luncheon has sold out the past three years and tickets go fast — so buy early.

When: May 19, 11 a.m.

Where: Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, 120 E. Delaware


HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO'S SPOTLIGHT BALL

Why go: Proceeds from this annual spring gala support the performing company as well as Hubbard Street’s education, community and artistic programs, which reach thousands annually through work in Chicago-area schools, classes and workshops at the Hubbard Street Dance Center.

Who you’ll see: Event benefactors Meg and Tim Callahan, Paul and Ellen Gignilliat, and Denise Stefan and John Ginascol welcome hundreds of notable personalities from Chicago’s business and arts communities, as well as Hubbard Street’s renowned artists.

Who’s onstage: Accepting the 2014 Spotlight Award will be Tony- and Oscar-nominated performer Mikhail Baryshnikov, a Kennedy Center honoree and recipient of the National Medal of Honor.

What to wear: Cocktail or business attire

Pro tip: You may not be able to resist auction items like two tickets to the 2014 Primetime Emmy Awards or a luxury cruise through the Mediterranean with Seabourn Cruises.

When: May 19, 5:30 p.m.

Where: Navy Pier Grand Ballroom, 600 E. Grand


CHINESE AMERICAN SERVICE LEAGUE

Why go: This is the 35th dinner gala benefitting the Chinese American Service League’s (CASL) mission to serve Chicago’s Asian community through language assistance, childcare, housing social services, job programs and more.

Who you’ll see: Hosts WGN’s Nancy Loo, ABC-7’s Judy Hsu, Fox 32’s Joanie Lum join event co-chairs Anne Pramaggiore, president and CEO of ComEd and Rick Waddell, chairman and CEO of Northern Trust.

Who’s onstage: Special entertainers, to be announced soon, will take the spotlight.

What you’ll eat: The cocktail reception features appetizers prepared and served by students of CASL’s award-winning chef training program.

When: May 21, 6 p.m. cocktail reception, 7 p.m. dinner and program.

Where: Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan

Through her eyes

The Arts Club of Chicago celebrates the vision of Émilie Charmy

BY THOMAS CONNORS

In art, the “new” is usually the work of a young gun just beginning to establish a reputation. But occasionally, the past still offers up an artist whose imagery hasn’t been emblazoned on items in the museum gift shop, or been maxed out by Madison Avenue. Take Émilie Charmy. Born in 1878 and active into her 90s, this French painter did not invent a new vocabulary or deploy color in a strikingly unusual manner. The old standards — still life, portraits, landscape and genre scenes — were her stock-in-trade.

Yet she exercised the true artist’s prerogative: to paint what she wanted the way she wanted. From Feb. 27 through May 17, the Arts Club of Chicago presents the first U.S. retrospective of her work.

Initially curated by Matthew Aifron for the University of Virginia’s Fralin Museum of Art, the exhibition enables one not only to experience the individual sophistication of Charmy’s visual strategies, but also to reconsider the status of the female painter in the early 20th century. “She belonged to a generation of women who re-formulated notions of gender and art at the same time,” says Aifron, now a curator of modern art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. “And the study of an artist who is not well-known is as interesting for what we learn about the conditions of art-making, the nature of the art market and evolving interests in the art world — not least for women artists — as it is fascinating in terms of rediscovering the paintings themselves.”

Charmy’s paintings form a telling chronicle of an imagination deeply informed by the past and always wise to emerging trends. “Charmy was admired for her bold approach to painting the traditional subjects,” Aifron says. “And within an art world that tended to devalue the contribution of women as painters, her bold style made her a kind of maverick.” To wit: Despite some eye-catching trends, the Seine at Ablon” manifest an Edvard Munch-like mood. But the best of her paintings exhibit vehemence in both attitude and execution — most particularly, the frankly sensual nudes she produced in the early 20th century. “Charmy was recognized as an artist who shook up standard ideas of the difference between men and women, the idea that men look and women appear, or that the bodies of women exist solely for the pleasure of the heterosexual male viewer,” Aifron says. But gazing at Charmy’s canvases it’s clear — sexual politics are never paramount; the eye’s delight comes first.
T
ough this season of “Shameless" marks Sheldon Bailey's small-screen debut, you may recognize the 6-foot-5-inch actor from elsewhere: He's starred in more than 40 sports ads, including commercials for Nike, Adidas and Coca-Cola, playing body double for NBA players like LeBron James, Kobe Bryant, Dwyane Wade and Shaquille O'Neal. He credits that tireless work ethic with helping him land his role as Kenyatta, the love interest of "Shameless" regular Emma Greenwell (Mandy Milkovich). “I think 'Shameless' is my big break—or maybe my big break hasn't happened yet,” says Bailey, 31. “If you work hard and believe in yourself, you can continue to grow and strive for greater achievements.”

The dark comedy, set in Chicago's North Lawndale neighborhood, follows the dysfunctional Gallagher family: six children and an alcoholic, absentee father (William H. Macy) who forces them to learn to take care of themselves. Despite some intense scenes and an all-star cast—which includes William H. Macy, Emmy Rossum and Joan Cusack, for starters—Bailey felt immediately comfortable on the “Shameless” set. "The tone is pretty laid-back. No attitudes—just everybody enjoying doing the work,” he says. “It's all been a learning experience for me, and I'm soaking it up.”

Role call: "Kenyatta and Mandy have what appears to be a normal relationship until her ex-boyfriend comes back into the picture. Dealing with her racist father is another situation. [Kenyatta is your everyday guy dealing with everyday situations, but he has issues like the rest of the characters on 'Shameless'—maybe a little more so than most. I believe we all know a guy like him.

Star qualities: "It's a tremendous opportunity being on a show with such a talented cast. Emmy Rossum has that 'it' quality. She's really funny, but she can turn it on in a minute. I don't share many scenes with William H. Macy, but whenever I'm around him, I have my eyes and ears open. He's got a great humorous side, and he's fun-loving.”

Road to Hollywood: “I knew I wanted to be an actor in the third grade. I would perform variety shows for my family to stall my bedtime, but it worked because they loved it. I grew up participating in church and school plays. I studied theater in high school and graduated with preschool honors. I worked with theater professors in college. I began my career shooting sports commercials and was fortunate to have a lot of success in that industry. But acting has always been an incredible passion and artistic outlet for me.”

Chicago connection: “My first experience in Chicago was visiting a girl, but that’s an article in itself. The next time I came was to shoot the show. The weather changes can keep you off-balance, but I love how Chicagoans just grin and bear it. It can be freezing cold, snowing and windy, and you all are like, ‘So? Bundle up and go do your thing. I like the reality of the city. I love walking down the streets and re-living the movie ‘The Fugitive.’ Chicago will always be synonymous to me with Harrison Ford, Al Capone, bars and MJ. Sorry, Bears fans. Shout out to Devin Hester.”

Watch "Shameless" Sundays at 9 p.m. on Showtime.
As prime real estate season begins, here's how to sell in a snap

BY MADELINE NUSSER

This was supposed to be a real estate story about a pretty house on a pretty street. Good bones, great schools and a tranquil backyard. Its doting owners, notable designer-artist duo Michele and Tony Fitzpatrick, recently listed it with a tempting price tag. But the standard story ends there. Because hours after the bungalow at 3422 N. Janssen went on the market, offers poured in—at around $20,000 above ask.

As the 2014 real estate season starts on an optimistic note, it's a tale that might sound familiar. With the long-deflated market on the mend, demand is high, supply is low and the perfect listing waits for no one.

So, a determined buyer (or eager seller) might ask, what made 3422 N. Janssen, at $929,000, a candidate for a quick sale? In addition to a covetable Southport Corridor location, “it's a home that can be best described as warm,” says @properties broker Beth Wexner (left, call 312-254-0200). Owned by the Fitzpatricks for 18 years, the four-bedroom single-family home boasts original touches, like moulding and baseboards, with modern upgrades. Michele—a furniture designer and interior decorator—says she complemented their collection of paintings and prints by Chicago artists with basics, like white linen drapes and a welcoming round table in the dining room. The eminently livable layout includes an unusually large foyer, perfect for baby strollers and bicycles. Another covetable family attraction: great schools. (“Let this be a lesson to sellers,” Michele says. “You have to be involved with your neighborhood school; get it up to snuff.”)

But the real art of the sell was timing. One weekend, Michele left town with the dog, and Wexner trusted the old real estate adage that the market heats up after the Super Bowl, this year’s heavy snow be damned. “We scheduled people in blocks of time,” Wexner says, “They saw they had to commit and couldn’t play games. Offers came out of the chute.”

For Michele, who decided to downsize after the kids left the nest, the speedy sale provided a certain kind of relief. “It feels good that the new owner loves this home as much as I do.”

BEST BUY

One of our favorite new-to-market finds is the five-bedroom at 3537 W. Palmer in desirable Logan Square. The sizable single-family home boasts recent construction, quality finishes and plenty of bells-and-whistles, including two fireplaces, a two-car garage and lower level for entertaining.

With an ask of $575,000 there’s only one problem: We can’t guarantee it’ll last long. (Call Coldwell Banker broker Sara McCarthy at 312-943-1959.)

GREEN PIECE

> Even before we took a peek in her home, we adored Michele’s warm decorating aesthetic as well as her own serene collection of furniture. Find her designs—such as the Ricardo sofa—at Verde Design Studio, her showroom of sustainable furniture. Price upon request, 2444 W. 16th; verdedesignstudio.net
SHOPPING SPY
The latest intelligence from the retail scene

Spring bling
Add to your accessory collection with pieces from local line lanneci. Designers and sisters Jennifer and Kimberly Gennance [above] will be on hand Feb. 28 and March 1 at Bloomingdale's Old Orchard, doling out styling tips at their first trunk show of the season. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 4963 Old Orchard, Skokie; lanneci.com

Guilt-free
Shop local designer jewelry for less during Gilt City Chicago's weeklong sale, ending Feb. 28. For $250, you can score a private jewelry-making class with designer Laura Lombardi, plus 20 percent off her designs.

European flair
Lakeview welcomes Doug and Mike Cohen, founders of new furniture boutique Cities in Dust, to Wrightwood Furniture. The father-son team stocks their showroom with hand-selected, one-of-a-kind designs shipped directly from artisans and factories at reduced prices. 3036 N. Lincoln, Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wrightwood-furniture.com

If you could spend one hour with anyone from your past, who would you choose?

This is an easy one for me. It would be my Grandpa Joe, because he was my everything. He was such a goofball, and it makes me wonder just how genetic being a goofball is, because if anything, I inherited that trait directly from him.

When I was little, Grandpa Joe would take me to the grocery store. He would keep me entertained with stories of how he used to play hooky from school— to him, school was just a place to meet girls. Inevitably, if a little old lady would walk past us, he would sing songs to her as she went by. He had me constantly giggling even during the most boring errands.

As we got older, my grandma couldn't walk anymore, so Grandpa Joe would have to care for and bathe her. I'll never forget it—one weekend I was over and I heard them in the bathroom. He was singing love songs to her while she yelled, "Stop washing me like a car!" He would just keep singing her love songs until she laughed.

Grandpa Joe was my mom's dad, and he died when I was in high school. I still cry myself to sleep over it. If only there was Skype in heaven.

Read Jenny's blog at ChicagoSplash.com.

Cassie Lee Larson: Grandma McWilliams ... that lady knew how to party. Wish I could have known her better ... we'd be great friends.

Derek Allen Beattle: My mother. Even just 30 minutes.

Katie Wilson: My old love Joe.

Betty McAuley: My math teacher from Job Corps. I never got to thank him for his help. Mr. G, will never forget you.

Tia @tlavanhemert: My sweet Oma (Dutch 4 grandma) lost her a year ago & my Opa & fam would give anything 2 see her sitting in her chair knitting.

Andy Appleton @theandyappleton: I would spend it with an 18-year-old me. I would tell him to invent Google, Facebook & iPhones.

Tweet your response to @JennyMcCarthy and @Suntimes_Splash.
Life's a party

Tom Kehoe, local event guru and president of Kehoe Designs, throws the perfect event.

“Food pairing with bourbon is a hot trend. The older the bourbon, the better it pairs with savory. The younger the bourbon, the better it pairs with sweets.”

“Take a cocktail party to new heights with a focal bar that stuns with black and white geometric patterns.”

“A savory, petite bite (right), with its complex flavors, pairs perfectly with a Grand Cru from Nespresso (left).”

“You’ve mastered the evening — now, deliver a smart departure with Uber Black. Send your guests to their next destination with an Uber gift code written on a thank-you card, or have the charge added to your account.”

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1. Terlato Wines International: Sanford Santa Rita Hills pinot noir, $42.99, Sunset Foods, 825 S. Waukegan, Lake Forest; Sanfordwinery.com
2. Four Roses: single-barrel whiskey, $38.99, Binny’s locations citywide; Fourrosesbourbon.com
3. Kehoe Designs: bar rental, $180, 2108 W. Walnut; Kehoedesigns.com
4. Jayson Home & Garden: ceramic candles, $65, 1885 N. Clybourn; Jaysonhome.com
5. Pagoda Red: stones, start at $280, 1714 N. Damen; Pagodared.com
7. Nespresso: Grand Crus, $7 for 10 capsules, Bloomingdale’s, 900 N. Michigan; Nespresso.com
8. Boutique Bites: sandwiches, $36 per dozen, 5717 N. Elston; Boutiquedites.com
9. Uber: black car service, $7 base fare plus $0.35 per minute and $3.25 per mile; Uber.com
10. Parrano: gouda, $14.99 per pound, Marianos locations citywide; Marianos.com
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High School Cube News, Sun-Times Media's new high school sports website, launched this week. It's the latest evolution in Chicago area prep sports coverage. High School Cube News will integrate all the highlights and live games from HighSchoolCube.com with the comprehensive coverage formerly provided by Season Pass.

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 highschoolcubenumes.com or click "SPORTS" on your local newspaper site.
Rick Springfield's stories include angst behind 'Jessie's Girl'

BY SHERYL DEVORE
For Sun-Times Media

Rick Springfield was experiencing a bit of a slow period. He hadn't had a record deal in a couple of years, so for a diversion he took a stained glass design class. "I had visions of becoming a great stained glass artist," he said, with a laugh.

But in a unique turn of events, that class led him to his next big hit, "Jessie's Girl," which earned him a Grammy Award for Best Male Rock Vocal Performance in 1982.

Springfield, 64, will tell this and other stories when he presents his first solo tour, "Stripped Down," March 6 at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie. Fans can expect an intimate solo music performance featuring acoustic and electric guitar, true stories about Springfield's life and a question and answer session.

Springfield will likely tell the story of how he met a girl at his stained glass class who had a boyfriend. "She wasn't interested in me, so I took my sexual angst and went home and wrote about it," he said. The result: "Jessie's Girl."

Fans will also hear a song he wrote when he was 15 years old, a few years after he started learning to play guitar. The song was, as he said, "pretty awful."

For Springfield, the tour is quite different from his usual shows, legendary for their rock heavy, high-energy full band sets. The timing is right, said Springfield. "It came out of the idea of my autobiography, 'Late, Late at Night' which I wrote a year and a half ago.

"I've had an unusual life and I realize I have a lot of interesting stories," said Springfield, who's also performing with the full band this year in between his solo tours. Springfield said at the solo tours, fans have asked him a range of questions, including whether he wears boxers or briefs. "Both," Springfield said. Fans also wanted to know about his father, Norman Springthorpe, who died in 1981, and inspired several of his son's songs.

Springfield grew up listening to show tunes in his Australian homeland. His parents loved them all, from "Carousel" to "Oklahoma!" he said.

Springfield will perform, tell stories about his life and answer questions at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts March 6.

RICK SPRINGFIELD
'STRIPPED DOWN'
7:30 p.m. March 6
North Shore Center for the Performing Arts,
950 Skokie Blvd., Skokie
NorthShoreCenter.org; (847) 673-6300

"Back then the songwriters were the kings of Broadway," he said. Then the Beatles came along, he said, and "they just upped the songwriting craft."

Springfield began his twisting and turning career sometime after he received a guitar for his 13th birthday. A few years later, he started his first band, Icy Blues, in high school. He also performed for the troops in Vietnam, acted in television shows such as "The Rockford Files" and took an acting job as Dr. Noah Drake on "General Hospital" in 1981 to help pay the bills. In between acting and writing music, Springfield took time off to raise his sons. He also shattered his collarbone in an accident and was unable to hold a guitar for six months while he recuperated. In 2013, Springfield returned for two cameo appearances on "General Hospital," and now he's doing his solo show, with a novel to be published in May.

"I always wanted to write fiction," he said. "The only good marks I got in school were for my essays." He said he was asked to write a novel after a publisher read his autobiography and said he'd be good at fiction, too.

"It's a very involved dark comedy about three people hooking up — the lead guy from a brutal divorce, he hates his job, he's at the end of his rope, he's thinking about offing himself, he sees a book from a bookstore — 1-800-CALL GOD." In it, characters explore their spirituality just as Springfield says he continues to explore his.

Throughout his varied career, Springfield said it always comes back to writing music. "It started with songwriting," he said. "I've fallen in love with it and I've never fallen out of love."
Dough is a go:
where to pick up paczki

BY HEATHER LESZCZEWICZ
Heather.Leszczewicz@wrapports.com

It's paczki time! Whether you celebrate on Fat Thursday (today, Feb. 27) or Fat Tuesday (March 4), here's your rundown on where to buy a delicious treat or two ... or a dozen.

Paczki are a Polish delicacy and are similar, but not equal to, a jelly- or cream-filled doughnut. Larger than doughnuts, paczki are rich, decadent treats filled with fresh fruits and all sorts of creme and mousse options, topped with powdered sugar, icing or chocolate.

Check out our guide to local bakeries that will sell paczki for a limited time. Make sure to call ahead to order or to confirm the dates of sale.

Aracely's Bakery
15 W. Harris Ave., Suite 101, La Grange
(708) 352-1767
9667 Franklin Ave. Franklin Park, (847) 455-7658

Central Continental Bakery
101 S. Main St., Mount Prospect
(847) 870-9500

Cumberland Bakery
36 E. Northwest Highway, Des Plaines
(847) 827-7810

Deerfields Bakery
813 N. Waukegan Road, Deerfield
201 N. Buffalo Grove Road, Buffalo Grove
(847) 520-0068

Deli For You
4343 N. Harlem Ave., Norridge
(708) 457-1700

Jarosch Bakery
35 Arlington Heights Road, Elk Grove Village
(847) 437-1234

Kay's Bakery
7332 Madison St., Forest Park
(708) 366-3669

Kolatch's Bakery & Deli
2445 N. Harlem Ave., Chicago
(773) 637-3772

Kuppie's Bakery
42 S. Villa Ave., Villa Park
(630) 832-0929

Lovin' Oven Cakery
355 N. Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville
(224) 207-4500

Oak Mill Bakery
2214 E. Rand Road, Arlington Heights,
(847) 454-0139
8012 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, (847) 318-6400
4747 N. Harlem Ave., Harwood Heights,
(708) 867-9400

Oak Park Bakery
904 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park
(708) 867-4500

Old Warsaw Buffet Bar & Banquets
4750 N. Harlem Ave., Harwood Heights
(708) 867-9400
Ravinia’s 2014 season: 5 can’t-miss acts

BY PHIL ROCKROHR
prockrohr@pioneertelegraph.com

Ravinia Festival unveiled its 2014 season schedule today, Feb. 27, with a lineup of 130 acts taking the stage June 6 through Sept. 14 at the Highland Park venue. Tickets go on sale March 5. Among the loaded summer schedule are a series of golden shows that would make any music fan excited. Here are five that are essential to an exciting summer on the North Shore:

1. July 12 — Willie Nelson and Family, with Alison Krauss and Union Station featuring Jerry Douglas and Jason Isbell. Of all the country-esque billings floating through Ravinia each year, Nelson and his entourage provide the most welcome respite from Nashville gloss. Krauss’ traditional down-home country and the folksy rock flirtations of Isbell, a former member of indie-country-rock pioneers Drive-By Truckers, will nicely complement each other.

2. Aug. 19 — Buddy Guy with special guest to be announced April 19. Even without knowing his support act, classic rock and Chicago blues fans know this show should not be missed. Guy remains a living connection to the city’s rich musical history and to the influence he spread to Eric Clapton and countless others who borrowed his power and style.

3. Aug. 28 — ZZ Top with Jeff Beck. Neither of these artists alone would be enough to keep the musically adventurous occupied for a full evening, but together they frame a bill that combines shrewd pop sensibility with masterful technique — of which both artists are capable within the right composition. In other words, this unique combination will entertain any rock fan who may want to hear some classic hits, but still wants to be challenged by expertise and nuance.

4. Aug. 31 — Dwight Yoakam with Bob Weir & Rat Dog. Like the Aug. 28 billing, this may seem like an unlikely combination, in particular to purists who eschew Weir’s former incarnation in jam-band founders The Grateful Dead. But Yoakam’s smooth country and Weir’s electric rock nicely complement each other. If Weir gets too stiff or jammy, remember Yoakam is up next. And if Yoakam gets a little too slick or poppy, remember you just heard Bob Weir.

5. Sept. 12 — Poli Dog Pondering. A Ravinia staple and Chicago treasure, Poli Dog somehow combines virtually every rock style with no need for backup. Their recent mini-album, “Audio Love Letter,” is a perfect illustration of their diverse catalog, with covers of Van Morrison, The The and David Bowie. With a little luck, they will dabble into these new gems. Either way, no other band at Ravinia or elsewhere can embody the spirit of, say, The Grateful Dead and New Order in the same song.
**FAMILY FRIENDLY**

It will be a tough call when mothers and sons pair up for dodgeball, kickball and relay races on March 7 at the Maine Park Leisure Center.

**Play ball! Mother and son sport time**

**BY MYRNA PETLICKI**
For Sun-Times Media

Moms are good sports. "We did a mother-son kickball last year that was fantastic," said Mary Bart, recreation supervisor for the Park Ridge Park District. "The moms really loved it so they asked us to do it again. This year we're going to do lots of fun and crazy sports games. We're going to do a make-your-own-sundae ice cream bar. And we'll give out awards - couples awards and boys-versus-moms awards."

The Mother Son Sports Spectacular, for boys ages 4-12 and their moms, is 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, March 7 at Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sibley St.

“We ask that they come dressed in their favorite sports memorabilia so they're ready to battle," Bart said. Activities will include a dodgeball tournament, kickball tournament and relay races.

The cost is $26 per couple for residents, $33 for nonresidents. Reservations are required.

For details, call (847) 692-5127 or go to www.prparks.org.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

Kids up to age 2 will pick out an object that helps foretell their future - according to Korean tradition - at Babytime-Doljanchi: Korean 1st Birthday Celebration. The event will follow the regular storytime, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Monday, March 3 at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St.

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

**FUNNY BUNNIES**

Books about bunny siblings Max and Ruby will be read at Family Storytime, 7 p.m. Thursday, March 6 at Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave. All ages are welcome, especially ages 3-8. There will be related activities.

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

**GROW A MINI-GARDEN**

You'll visit three greenhouses and learn what a plant needs to thrive at Tropical Terrarium, for ages 4-10 with an adult, 9:30-11 a.m. or 1-3 p.m. Sunday, March 2 at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. You'll make a tropical terrarium. Cost is $22 per child for nonmembers. Reservations are required.

For details, call (847) 835-6801 or go to www.chicagobotanic.org/familyprograms.
The artisanal way: A hops, skip and a jump from pale ale to bread

BY VERONICA HIGGIE
For Sun-Times Media

When Temperance Beer Co. Head Brewer Claudia Jendron finishes making a batch of her Restless Years — a Rye Pale Ale with a slightly spicy finish — she doesn’t just toss the grains. She gives them away — to the neighbors down Dempster Street in Evanston. There, at Hewn, an artisanal bakery that opened last year, bakers knead Jendron’s grains into loaves of aptly-named Spent Grain Bread.

“The spent grains are dense. It’s hard to use them to make bread,” Jendron explains.

But these artisans certainly aren’t looking for the easy way to do things. They’re among Evanston’s artisanal food and beverage community, making things the old-fashioned way.

Crusty loaves of Spent Grain, by the time the breads are pulled from the oven racks, is weary from laboring in the hot kitchen since 3 a.m.

Holmes works with co-owner Ellen King’s personal recipes, including one for the starter they use as a base for most of their breads.

Jendron’s collaboration with Temperance is just one example of artisan partnerships. The Hewn crew makes focaccia bread three times a week for nearby Union Pizzeria. The focaccia is also available to the public at Hewn by advance order. The bread is known for the dimpled top crust that bakers create by using their fingertips to spread the dough evenly across a flat baking pan.

And there are more partnerships. In January, Jendron teamed up with Nicole Pederson, the chef at Found Kitchen and Social House in Evanston, to create a beer dinner for members of the local chapter of Les Dames d’Escoffier. Pederson made a House-cured Salmon with Rye with Caperberries and Dill to go with Jendron’s Restless Years ale, finishing the meal with a beer cake and salted caramel gelato to go with Jendron’s Root Down Robust Porter.

Next, they’ll participate together in a tour of Artisanal Evanston. The tour is open to attendees of the International Association of Culinary Professionals’ conference, taking place in Chicago March 14-17. The tour will also stop at Hewn, Nell Funk’s New We’re Cookin’ test kitchen, Belgian Chocolatier Piron and The Spice House.

Spice House Owner Patty Erd will provide tastings of popular new flavor enhancers like berberine extract and trendy sansho peppercorns. The peppers, which are still grown only in Japan, are known for their heat. “When you put them in your mouth it’s like you put your tongue in an electric socket,” Erd says.

Another event, the 21st annual Women Chefs and Restaurateurs Conference, is coming to Chicago for the first time, March 9-11. The event will also showcase the work of local artisans: Nicole Pederson and Evanston native Stephanie Izard will be among featured chefs.

Chefs Sarah Stegner, Gale Gand and Paul Virant will be featured presenters.

To learn more about the IACP conference, including a list of culinary tours, visit www.IACP.com, and for more about the Conference of Women Chefs and Restaurateurs, visit www.WomenChefs.org.
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SUBMIT YOUR EVENT

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Oscar Party
5 p.m.: Professor Ron Falzone leads this Oscar celebration featuring clips and reviews of this year's top films and personalities. Attendees can also participate in Oscar contests and enjoy a movie snack. This is a BYOB event. Mather's, 7394 N. Higgins Ave., Chicago. Call 773-774-4804. $10 suggested donation.

Peace, Love, Girlfriends
6:30 p.m.: Join friends for funky night that includes retro make-overs, peace crafts, a disco dance party and more. Each attendant receives a themed goodie bag at the end of the night. For ages 4 to 11. Norridge Park District, 6401 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge. Call 708-467-1244. $30-$55.

Shakespeare After Hours Film Discussion: A Midsummer Night's Dream
7 p.m.: This film is shown in conjunction with the Shakespeare Project of Chicago. Members of The Shakespeare Project will be on hand for discussion following the film. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-963-1243.

Film: 'Blue Jasmine' & Oscar Prediction Contest
7 p.m.: Join in for an after-hours showing of Woody Allen's newest movie about a New York socialite (Cate Blanchett), deeply troubled and in denial, who arrives in San Francisco to impose upon her sister. 100 minutes. Enjoy complimentary popcorn and fill out an Oscar prediction ballot for a chance to win a bundle of nominated DVDs after the Oscars air on March 2. Call 847-929-5101 or visit www.mgpl.org for more information. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

Donivan Cody: The Survive Show
8:30 p.m.: Cody is a pop/R&B artist. Gorilla Tango Skokie, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-7701. $10.

Friday Night Fever
9 p.m.: The Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation takes a trip to Finn McCool's Irish Sports Pub and Grille in Schaumburg for a night of music and dancing. For ages 18 and older. Appetizers and soft drinks are included in the price. Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation, 8820 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-966-5522. $25-$55.

Korean Brush Drawing
10 a.m.: Artist Soojin Lee shows participants the techniques of Korean brush drawing with ink and a brush on rice paper. Supplies will be provided. For ages 12 and up. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration
11 a.m.: Celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and Read Across America Day with crafts, games and raffle. Registration required. Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton St., Skokie.

'Snow Girls'
2 p.m.: The all-female youth ensemble presents a production about a group of girls who are snowed into a school auditorium. Gorilla Tango Skokie, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-7701. $12.

Silver Screen Series: 'The Searchers'
2 p.m.: A Civil War veteran embarks on a journey to rescue his niece from an Indian tribe. Stars John Wayne, Jeffrey Hunter. 120 minutes. Call 847-929-5101 or visit www.mgpl.org to learn more. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

Korean Drum and Dance Performance
2 p.m.: The Chicago Korean Dance Company will perform a variety of traditional Korean dances, such as a fan dance, jango dance with drums and others. Call 847-929-5101 or visit www.mgpl.org for more information. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

The Crystal Ball: A 20th Anniversary Gala
6:30 p.m.: The event begins with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres followed by dinner and a program and ends with dancing to music by Joe Jill. There will be a silent auction, a basket raffle and the attire is casual. Donations appreciated. To RSVP or provide a donation, visit www.nddons.org/burkescholarsprogram. St John Brebeuf Ministry Center, 9351 N. Harlem Ave., Niles. Call 847-965-9290.

Music of the Baroque

Colin Quinn: Unconstitutional
8 p.m.: Colin Quinn tackles 272 years of American constitutional calamities in 70 minutes in this one-man show. North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Call 847-673-6300. $40.

Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast
9 a.m.: The spring pancake breakfast for Boy Scout Troop 822, Our Lady of the Church, 9747 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. $6 per person, free for ages 3 and under.

Korean Dance and Drum Performance
2 p.m.: The Chicago Korean Dance Company will perform a variety of traditional Korean dances, such as a fan dance, jango dance with drums and others. Call 847-929-5101 or visit www.mgpl.org for more information. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast
9 a.m.: The spring pancake breakfast for Boy Scout Troop 822, Our Lady of the Church, 9747 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. $6 per person, free for ages 3 and under.
An Evening with Whole Foods Market: Cooking on a Budget
7 p.m.: Save money at the grocery store. Market Cooking on a Budget. An Evening with Whole Foods. Call 847-9333.
7020 Carpenter Road, Skokie. Call 847-847-3123.

An Evening with Whole Foods Market: Cooking on a Budget
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.

Second Saturday Family Story Time
10 a.m.: Stories and crafts for the whole family. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Second Saturday Family Story Time
10 a.m.: Stories and crafts for the whole family. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Second Saturday Coffeehouse: Court & Country
8 p.m.: The local a cappella vocal ensemble performs Medieval and Renaissance pieces written in or before the early 1600s. Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 Lincoln Ave., Norridge. Free.

Friends Book Sale
2 p.m.: Browse a selection of discount-priced books, DVDs and CDs for $1 and paperback books for 50 cents. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. For more information, call 708-867-7828.

Friends Book Sale
2 p.m.: Browse a selection of discounted items, including hardcover books, DVDs and CDs for $1 and paperback books for 50 cents. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. For more information, call 708-867-7828.

Healthy Children Conference & Expo
10 a.m.: The American Academy of Pediatrics invites parents, grandparents, caregivers and kids to its first-ever Healthy Children Conference & Expo. The event will combine education and fun with experts from around the country discussing the latest information on children's health and wellness for all ages from babies to teens. For more information and to register for the event visit www.healthychildrenexpo.org. Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 N. River Road, Rosemont. Call 312-555-1700. $10.

Beatles Nights On Tap
7 p.m.: Hear classic Beatles tunes performed live onstage by talented local musicians. Park Ridge Community Church, 100 Courtland Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-829-3164. $10 in advance, $5 for students; $5 at the door.

Friends Book Sale
2 p.m.: Browse a selection of discount-priced items, including hardcover books, DVDs and CDs for $1 and paperback books for 50 cents. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. For more information, call 708-867-7828.

Afternoon at the Movies for Families: 'Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2'
2 p.m.: A screening of the 2013 animated film about an inventor who has left his new post to address the problems with his infamous machine that creates food-animal hybrids. 95 minutes. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. For more information, call 847-667-3334. $8, includes coffee and pastries.

Mega Movie Pajama Night
6 p.m.: Kids can dress in their PJs for a night of games, snacks and PG-rated movies. For ages 4 to 10. Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sibley St., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-692-5127. $14-$26.

Free Game Night
7 p.m.: The church provides games such as dominoes, Uno, Yahtzee, Pictionary and many more. Hot dogs with chips and drinks will be offered. Acacia Park Lutheran Church, 4307 N. Oriole Ave., Norridge. Free.

Second Saturday Coffeehouse: Court & Country
8 p.m.: The local a cappella vocal ensemble performs Medieval and Renaissance pieces written in or before the early 1600s. Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 Lincoln Ave., Norridge. Free.

Second Saturday Coffeehouse: Court & Country
8 p.m.: The local a cappella vocal ensemble performs Medieval and Renaissance pieces written in or before the early 1600s. Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-667-3334. $8, includes coffee and pastries.
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Chicago Tribune

"HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!
BURSTS WITH INTELLIGENCE, EMOTIONAL HEAT AND TRUTH"
CHICAGO SUN TIMES

FILM CLIPS

OPENING FRIDAY

KIDS FOR CASH
Rated PG-13 for some thematic material and language
Stars: Mark Ciavarella, Amanda Lorah, Michael Canahan
After the school shootings at Columbine, a local judge's zero-tolerance approach to imprisoning juvenile offenders leads to scandal and tragedy. Producer Robert May ("The Fog of War") makes his directorial debut with the documentary.

NON-STOP
Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of action and violence, some language, sensuality and drug references
Stars: Liam Neeson, Julianne Moore, Scoot McNairy
An air marshal (Neeson) attempts to foil a hijacking attempt during a trans-Atlantic flight. Jaume Collet-Serra ("Orphan") directed the action thriller.

OMAR
Rated: No MPAA rating
Stars: Adam Bakri, Leem Lubany, lyad Hoorani
A young Palestinian man involved in the conflict with Israel becomes an informant after the killing of an Israeli soldier. Hany Abu-Assad ("Paradise Now") directed the Best Foreign Film nominee.

SON OF GOD
Rated PG-13 for intense and bloody depiction of the Crucifixion, and for some sequences of violence
Stars: Diogo Morgado, Greg Hicks, Roma Downey, Amber Rose Revah
The story of Jesus (Morgado) from his birth to the resurrection. Christopher Spence ("The Bible") directed the drama.

3 DAYS TO KILL
Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, some sensuality and language
Stars: Kevin Costner, Amber Heard, Hailee Steinfeld
A Secret Service agent (Costner) hoping to retire and reconnect with his estranged teenage daughter (Steinfeld) must first complete one last dangerous mission — and look after her while her mother is out of town. McG ("Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle") directed the thriller.

POMPEII
Rated PG-13 for intense battle sequences, disaster-related action and brief sexual content
Stars: Kit Harington, Emily Browning, Kiefer Sutherland
A slave-turned-gladiator finds himself in a race against time to save his true love, who has been betrothed to a corrupt Roman Senator. As Mount Vesuvius erupts, he must fight to save his beloved as Pompeii crumbles around him.

THE WIND RISES
★★★ 1/2
Rated PG-13 for some disturbing images and smoking
Stars: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Emily Blunt, Stanley Tucci, Elijah Wood
See it for the way it captures the "beautiful dream" of flight. Flying machines and flying in general have always been a specialty of Japanese animation great Hayao Miyazaki and that's very much the case in "The Wind Rises." This highly fictionalized life story of aeronautical engineer Jiro Horikoshi, the designer of Japan's WWII fighter plane the Zero (a major departure from Miyazaki's fantasy-based previous films) isn't entirely successful, but its many dreams and visions of flight are still sublime. And it still casts the magically beautiful Miyazaki spell.

ABOUT LAST NIGHT
Rated R for sexual content, language and brief drug use
Stars: Kevin Hart, Michael Ealy, Regina Hall, Joy Bryant
Two couples struggle to make the transition from casual affairs to relationships. Steve Pink ("Hot Tub Time Machine," "High Fidelity") directed this remake of the 1986 romantic comedy.

ENDLESS LOVE
★★
Rated PG-13 for sexual content, brief partial nudity, some language and teen partying
Stars: Alex Pettyfer, Gabriella Wilde, Bruce Greenwood, Joely Richardson
A triple dose of true romance and tortured melodrama for tween-age girls, the hyper-emotional "Endless Love" is likely to seem truly endless for just about anyone else. Wilde as sweet, beautiful, filthy rich Jade and Pettyfer as sensitive, hunky, wrong-side-of-the-tracks David are star-crossed teen lovers thwarted by Jade's disapproving dad (Greenwood). Who has apparently forgotten that didn't work out well in "Romeo and Juliet."
**SHOWTIMES**

Movie times are effective Friday, Feb. 28, through Thursday, March 6. Please note that theater schedules are subject to change.

**CENTURY 12 EVANSTON CINEARTS 6 AND XD**
1715 Maple Ave.
Evanston
(847) 491-9751
www.cinemark.com
Contact theater for showtimes.

**AMC SHOWPLACE NILES 12**
301 Golf Mill Center
Niles
(888) AMC-4FUN
www.amctheatres.com
Contact theater for showtimes.

**ROSEMONT IB**
9701 Bryn Mawr Ave.
Rosemont
(847) 447-1030
www.muvico.com
Contact theater for showtimes.

**ROSEMONT PREMIER**
9701 Bryn Mawr Ave.
Rosemont
(847) 447-1030
www.muvico.com
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**REGAL GARDENS STADIUM 1-6**
4999 Old Orchard Center
Skokie
(847) 673-4037
www.regmovies.com
Contact theater for showtimes.

**AMC SHOWPLACE VILLAGE CROSSING IB**
7000 Carpenter Road
Skokie
(888) AMC-4FUN
www.amctheatres.com
Contact theater for showtimes.
YOUR Local Worship Guide

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Congregation Bene Shalom
4435 Gilmor, Skokie (847) 677-3330
www.beneshalom.org • Interfaith Families Welcome
Rabbi Dr. Douglas Goldhamer
Asst. Rabbi Shari Chen, Soloist Charlene Brooks
All services voice and sign language
Check our website for service times

St. Peter's United
Church of Christ
Oakton Street & Laramie Avenue
847-673-8166
www.stpeteruccskokie.org
Sunday Worship 10AM
Sunday School 9AM
(Sept. thru May)
Rev. Richard Lanford
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Air Conditioned Sanctuary

Devar Emeth Messianic
Synagogue
7800 Niles Ave., Skokie
847-674-9166
www.devaremet.org
Join us for Shabbat Services at 10AM
"A Community of Jews who believe and teach that Yeshua (Jesus) is the Promised Jewish Messiah"

Ezra-Habonim,
the Niles Township
Jewish Congregation
4500 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076
Shabbat: Fri 9PM & Sat 9:30AM
Minyan Mon - Thurs 7PM
Sat & Sun 8PM
Religious School Tues & Sat
Rabbi Jeffrey Weill
Cantor Benjamin Warschawski
Rabbi Neil Brief, Emeritus

Temple Beth Israel
3601 W. Dempster St.
Skokie, IL 60076
847-675-0951
www.tbiskokie.org

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

SKOKIE CENTRAL TRADITIONAL
CONGREGATION
Traditional Service – Mixed Seating
Services led by:
Rabbi Dr. Michael Gottesman

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

SKOKIE

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

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630-978-8277
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worship@Pioneerlocal.com
Bredemann Sr., Joseph J.
87, of Evanston, IL formerly of Rogers Park, promoted to heaven on February 20, 2014. Beloved and adoring husband of Sara J. “Sally” Bredemann (nee Noonan); most loving father of Joseph J. (Kathleen Marquette), John P. (Kim Gryka), Mary Ann (Stephen J.) Travnik, Thomas P. (Susan Caswell), Martin J. (Kathleen McDonnell) and Marjorie E. (Todd) Richmond; loving grandfather of Kathryn, Julie (John) Messner, Joseph and Elisabeth Bredemann, Anne Bredemann, Sarah Travnik (Paul) Mayhew, Katharine, Mary Elizabeth and Marjorie Travnik, Clare and Thomas Bredemann, Bridget, Andrew, Brian, and Mark Bredemann, Ellen, Jack, Grace and the late Meghan Richmond; great-grandfather of Madeleine Mary Mayhew; devoted son of the late Ellen (nee Swanson) and Joseph J. Bredemann; son-in-law of the late Marjorie (nee Ure) and John P. Noonan; dearest brother-in-law of the late Marjorie Noonan McDermott; and loving uncle of Sarah Jo, Jamie (Matthew) Alvord, Molly (David) Henning and the late Megan (Jeff) Griffin; great-uncle of Mamie, John and Christopher Alvord, and David, Mary Catherine and Brian Henning. Forever grateful to his Executive Assistant of 33 years, Jan Swatek, and loving staff, Mary Sevilla and Lilly Ohiem.

Family Man, Boundless Optimist, Veteran, Entrepreneur, Proud Chairman of Bredemann Family Automotive Dealerships, 47-year parishioner/usher at St. Joan of Arc Parish, Founding Member of the Park Ridge Rotary Club, Mop & Pop Captain, Douglas, Ml in Summer, Tennis Buff, inspirational and loyal friend to all who had the good fortune of knowing him. As genuine as God makes them. A life well-lived and well-loved.

A.M.D.G. Celebration of Life & Rite of Christian Funeral took place on Monday, February 24, 2014 at Saint Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 9248 Lawndale Avenue, Evanston, IL 60203. Interment All Saints Cemetery, Des Plaines, IL.

As longtime supporters, please consider making a contribution to one of the following, in lieu of flowers: Saint Joan of Arc School, 9245 North Lawndale Avenue, Evanston, IL 60203 or Saint Margaret Mary School, 7318 North Oakley Avenue, Chicago, IL 60645 or Loyola Academy, 1100 Laramie Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091 or Regina Dominican High School, 1100 Laramie Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091 or Saint Peter’s Catholic Church, 100 St. Peter Drive, P.O. Box 248, Douglas, MI 49406 or Misericordia Heart of Mercy, 6300 North Ridge, Chicago, IL 60660. Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or 847-675-1990.
Beckman, Lily
(nee Knott) Age 88, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family on December 31, 2013. Lily was born in New York, and raised her family in Western Springs and Indiana. After her children were grown, Lily moved to Twisp, Washington, working as the owner of a floral and gift shop. Lily loved progressive politics. She was an active member of the League of Women Voters, and was an election judge for many years.

Lily is survived by her six children, Peggy Alvarez (Frank), Kathy Goldberg (Michael Notaro), Jeanne Beckman, John Beckman (Sherry), Jun Beckman, and Carolyn Beckman. She is also survived by her sister, Stella Poggensee (Bill). Lily was preceded in death by her brother, Lloyd Knott. Lily was a devoted grandmother of nine grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren, all of whom survived her: David Alvarez (Jenny), Michael Alvarez, Ryan Alvarez (Adam Merrin), Jessica Goldberg (Kylee Odion), Mario Notaro (Jolene Lee-Zezenia), Joseph Notaro (Eliza), Mark Barasa (Molly), Kevin Barasa (Anna Valeta), and Scott Barasa.

A memorial service will be held at the Winnetka Congregational Church at 725 Pine Street in Winnetka on March 1st at 1:30 p.m. (847)441-3400.

Hosfield, James G.
Age 82, of Skokie. Beloved husband of Diane (nee Leach); dear father of Lisa (Cary) Cochrane, Mark (Julie), Julie Anderson and James; loving grandfather of Christopher and Kate Cochrane, Laura, Drew and Gary Hosfield, Nancy, Peter and Thomas Anderson, Dakota Hosfield, Hannah and Natalie Palmer; fond father-in-law of Edward Anderson and Erin DiNardis.

Memorial Gathering Saturday, March 1st, from 10:00 a.m. until time of Memorial Service, 11:30 a.m., at Edgebrook Lutheran Church, 5252 W. Devon Ave., Chicago. Private Urn Interment, St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery, Skokie.

Memorial contributions may be made to Edgebrook Lutheran Church, 5252 W. Devon Ave., Chicago, IL 60646; Father Flanagan's Boys' Home (Boys' Town), Estate Administration, P.O. Box 145, Boys Town, NE, 68010; or St. Labre Indian School, Ashland, MT, 59004. Funeral info: (847) 673-6111 or www.habenfuneral.com.

Foxwell, Betsy Ann

Retired Chicago Public School Teacher, Eight Grade Gifted Education Educator, DeWitt Clinton Elementary School, Founder and Executive Director of Chicago Area Problem Solving (CAPS), Member of many organizations and clubs including, Park Ridge Jaycee Women's Club, Park Ridge Board of the Northwestern University Settlement House, Founder and President of the Kalo Foundation of Park Ridge.

Memorial visitation Saturday, March 1, from 3-8 p.m. at Edgebrook Lutheran Church, 5252 W. Devon Ave., Chicago. Private Urn Interment, St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery, Skokie.

Condolences for local community Death Notices visit pioneerlocal.com

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Ask about our available Death Notice Emblems.
Call: 847-998-3400 (opt 6)
HOROSCOPES: MARCH 5 — MARCH 11

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Take time from your busy schedule to check out what's going on around you. You might find that someone has been secretly trying to pull the wool over your eyes. The answer might well surprise you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Once again, that boldness pays off in uncovering the source of a disturbing workplace situation. Your personal life calls for patience.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Forget about going all out to impress someone in your personal life. Just being yourself is all that matters. A workplace decision will need more time.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Some supersensitive Crabs might take offense at what they perceive as a slight. But a closer look points to a simple misunderstanding.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You can roar your head off over someone's failure to keep a promise. But the wiser course would be to ask why it happened. The answer might well surprise you.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A developing relationship needs time to find its direction. So please be patient and resist pushing things along.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your well-thought-out proposal seems to be working. Someone who hasn't agreed with you on most things in the past could turn out to be a supporter.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Things seem to be going well. You can still expect criticism — some of it pretty heavy. But as long as you can back up your position, you'll rise above it.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Getting together with people who care for you is a great way to get that ego boost you might feel you need at this time.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You should be able to continue with your plans once you get past those temporary delays. An offer to help comes from a most unlikely source.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Prioritizing your tasks is important this week because of all those demands you have to deal with. Pressure eases in time for you to enjoy the weekend.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Save your energy and stay focused on what has to be done, despite all those distractions you're likely to face. You'll see some evidence of progress by week's end.
CAR STORY

We want to tell your car story. Email it to kevin.bargnes@wrapports.com.

Chicago Auto Show: 2014 BMW i8 Hybrid

By Mary Daly • mary.daly@wrapports.com

The 2014 BMW i8 Hybrid delivers sports car performance and fuel economy in one. An electric drive system produces 131 horsepower at the front wheels, and a three-cylinder turbo motor delivers 231 horsepower at the rear. Together, the two systems produce an acceleration of 0 to 60 mph in 4.4 seconds, and they allow the hybrid to reach an estimated 94 miles per gallon. Plus, the doors that swing up like wings really make you feel like you’re flying.
Used cars 53 percent of sales

In the month of November, Niles residents chose Toyota more often than any other make when purchasing pre-owned vehicles and opted for Ford above all other makes when buying new. All told, new car sales accounted for 47 percent of overall auto sales to residents of Niles, totaling 102 of the 216 overall auto sales in the month. Nissan and Chevrolet followed Ford to round out the list of the top three auto brands bought new by residents in November. Residents purchased a total of 21 new Ford vehicles, 12 new Nissan cars and 11 new Chevrolet vehicles in the month.

Used auto purchases accounted for 53 percent of auto sales, bringing in 114 of the 216 overall auto sales. Toyota was the most popular brand bought used, totaling 20 sales. Ford and Mercedes-Benz also made a good showing in the used car sales category, with 16 and eight sales, respectively.

Of the course of November, 73 percent of purchases by Niles residents came through a local dealer, while 27 percent were private party transactions. The 73 percent originating from local car dealers translated to 157 overall dealership sales in the month.

Enterprise FM Trust (five sales) sold more used cars to Niles residents in November than any other dealer, followed by Jidd Motors (four) and Schaumburg Honda Automobiles (three). The top three auto dealerships selling new cars to Niles residents in the month were Golf Mill Ford with 15 sales, Star Nissan (10 sales) and Grossinger Autoplex.
Honda 2009 Odyssey Touring
Low Miles, Navigation, Rear Entertainment & More!
Loaded Only For The Family! #4466XA $23,987 888-638-5906

Cadillac 2008 DTS
Super Low Miles, Heated & Cooled Leather, Chrome!
Very Sharp! #4059A $25,987 888-638-7906

Toyota 2010 Passat Comfort
Low Miles, Navigation, Sunroof & More! A Great Buy! #3420A $18,995 888-638-5906

Land Rover 2008 Range Rover Sport
The Works! Sunroof, Navigation, Headrest Monitors & More!
Low Miles Only Must Sell #3482A $29,995 888-638-5906

Chevrolet 2013 Camaro 2SS
Super Low Miles, Navigation, Heated & Cooled Leather & Much More!
Get Ready To Fly! #9370B $32,987 888-638-7906

Cadillac 2010 SRX Luxury
Low Miles, Panoramic Roof, Back Up Camera & More!
Loaded! #4355AX $34,987 888-638-5906

Lexus 2011 GS350 AWD
Beautiful! Navigation, Heated Leather & Much More! Loaded!
#34942 $34,995 888-638-5906

Honda 2011 Pilot EX-L 4WD
Moonroof, 3rd Row, Heated Leather, The Right One! #4457A $26,995 888-638-5906

Landrover 2008 Range Rover Sport
The Works! Sunroof, Navigation, Headrest Monitors & More!
Low Miles! Must See! #3463A $29,995 888-638-5906

Mazda 2008 Mazda 6 Mani Sport
Low Miles, Alloys, Rear Spoiler, Sporty! #4322A $9,995 888-638-5906

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Feature Series 2013-2014

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Notre Dame junior Marco Orlandi said his first experience at the Class 3A state wrestling meet was an exciting one. He also learned some lessons at the event in Champaign.

"It was really cool to be there," said the 160-pound Orlandi, who went 1-2. "I wish I did better, but I'm happy to get the first win under my belt. I know I can compete with the best. I just have to keep my head together when I'm wrestling. I have the tools. I just have to put it together."

Orlandi opened the tournament on Feb. 20 with a 7-3 win over Plainfield East senior Dontrell Bryant.

The following day, Orlandi had a plan entering his match with Marist senior Peter Andreotti, who has signed with Purdue. However, Orlandi abandoned the strategy shortly before being pinned 48 seconds into the quarterfinal match.

"The plan was to post up when he was on top and pull toward his back, get him to kind of pin himself, or get a reversal," Orlandi said. "But I bailed on it at the last second and put myself in danger, and he capitalized."

Later in the day, Orlandi lost to Barrington junior Julius Smith 7-5 in overtime. Orlandi had led the match 3-1.

"I kind of fell apart. I wasn't wrestling to score, I was trying to get the match over with," Orlandi said. "But the [learning] experience will help me if I make it down next year."

Notre Dame 113-pounder Jimmy Gallardo lost his only match at state, suffering a 6-2 defeat to Zion-Benton senior Anthony Munoz on Feb. 20. When Munoz lost in the next round, Gallardo was eliminated without getting another match.

"I could have done better. It was a rough beginning to the tournament," said Gallardo, a junior.

A three-time state qualifier, Gallardo hopes to be back as a senior in 2015. After competing at state at 106 pounds as a freshman and 113 the last two years, Gallardo said he likely will wrestle at 120 or 126 next season.
Maine East's Janelle Alba Garner (5) and Mary Younan reach for a loose ball during the Jan. 10, 2013, game against Glenbrook North. Both players could play big roles for Maine East during the 2014-15 season.

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

WINNETKA — The transition period within the Maine East girls basketball program started with 2 minutes, 54 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter of the Class 4A New Trier Regional title game.

That's when five saddened seniors — Jazlene Gonzalez, Elianta Slowek, Alyssa Matej, Shaylee Sloan and Maria Protic — were removed from the Feb. 20 game, which the Blue Demons went on to lose 55-21 to New Trier.

To expect the 2014-15 Blue Demons to replicate what the seniors accomplished this season — they won a CSL North title and a school-accomplished this season — they have to replace five seniors who played big minutes.

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

Wolves senior had tough draw and finished 0-2

BY DAN SHALIN
For Sun-Times Media, @danshalin

Niles West wrestling coach Anthony Genovesi said senior Isaac Reinemann achieved his long-held goal and wrestles at state.

Reinemann achieves his long-held goal and wrestles at state.

Wolves senior had tough draw and finished 0-2

BY DAN SHALIN
For Sun-Times Media, @danshalin

Niles West wrestling coach Anthony Genovesi said senior Isaac Reinemann received a bit of a tough draw at the Class 3A state wrestling tournament in Champaign.

Reinemann opened up with a 7-4 loss to Marist senior Mario Leveille on Feb. 20. Leveille ended up finishing second in the state at 138 pounds. The following day, Reinemann lost 8-3 to Crystal Lake South's Nick Gil, who wound up fifth.

Though Reinemann's stay at state was a short one, Genovesi said Reinemann (36-7) went down battling.

"If he was placed somewhere else [in the bracket], he might have had a better opportunity to place," Genovesi said. "But he pushed those kids. He went after them. Both those kids have been ranked [by IllinoisMatMen.com] No. 2 [Gil] and No. 3 [Leveille] all year."

Genovesi continued: "[Reinemann] had an awesome career. He was a two-time conference champ, a multiple-time sectional qualifier, won this year's Lake Park Tournament and was second at Wheaton Warrenville South and he went something like 66-18 over the last two years. He's a phenomenal young man, who really stepped it up this year and was a captain for us. You couldn't ask for a better guy."

Reinemann said the state tournament was a memorable experience and that he was proud to finish his career there.

"It was awesome wrestling at the State Farm Center. I've always wanted to wrestle there," he said. "I'm a little upset I didn't perform the way I wanted to. But I will be able to look back and see I did all right and that I'm happy with where I got."
NILES NORTH BOYS SWIMMING SECTIONAL NOTEBOOK

Allowing Knohl to focus on 500 pays off

Niles North's Kirilov recovers from illness, makes state in breaststroke

BY MIKE CHAMERNIK
For Sun-Times Media @MikeChamerink

SKOKIE — Evanston junior Ryan Knohl qualified for state in three events.
He was the third leg of the 200-yard medley relay team that won the opening event (1 minute, 36.72 seconds) and he also won the 200 freestyle (1:42.95) and the 500 free (4:40.23). Knohl was scheduled for the closing event, the 400 free relay, but Evanston coach Kevin Auger decided to shelve Knohl for the race, in part so he could give all his energy for the 500 free.
It worked. Knohl won by 16 seconds.
"The 500 free is one of those things where you hit the 12-length mark of the 500 free and you go 'I got a six-body-length lead, I could cruise from here,'" Auger said. "It's a pretty hard decision to make not to. He decided not to, and to turn it around."
Evanston won eight of 12 events for able-bodied athletes Saturday at the Niles North boys swimming sectional meet, accumulating 323 points in a rout over nine other schools. Seven Wildkit swimmers made the state cut in six individual events and three relays.
Sophomore Axel Lafont-Mueller was a part of the 200 free relay team (1:26.73), but he just missed making the cut in the 50 free.
Three swimmers were under the 21.90 cut-off line, but Lafont-Mueller finished fourth with a 22.21.
Auger was still impressed.
"Him going 22 in that 50 free was unbelievable," Auger said.
"Two weeks ago his best was 24.5."

Niles North
The Vikings had a quiet but still strong showing Saturday. The sectional hosts had only one swimmer make the state cut but they also scored 216 points for a second-place finish. Niles North finished in the top-six 12 times.
Senior Dimitar Kirilov earned Niles North's only state qualification, finishing second in the 100 breaststroke (1:00.06). The honor was a big accomplishment for Kirilov.
He was sick with the flu right after winter break and dropped around 10 pounds, missing five days of swimming.
Kirilov slowly worked his way back.
"He came in with a whole lot of confidence," Niles North coach Seth Orlove said. "He really stepped up and had a great swim today."

Niles West
The Wolves finished fifth with 159 points, but sophomore Cam Lee qualified for state in three events: the 50, 100 and 200 free for athletes with disabilities. Lee has a muscular disability in the palsy spectrum, and according to Niles West coach Dan Vander Jeudgt, Lee basically has no calf muscles.
"He's the greatest kid in the world," Vander Jeudgt said. "He never complained once. He comes to practice every single day."

Maine East
Since last year, senior Ricky Pokorski and coach Peter Przekota have wanted Pokorski to break Maine East's 200 free record, which stood at 1:49.90. At the sectional, Pokorski won his heat with a time of 1:48.83, which was good for fifth overall. Pokorski and Przekota rejoiced as soon as the scoreboard showed the official time.
"I thought he swam the meet of his life," Przekota said. "He really wanted to beat our 200 free record and he went out amazing."
Fellow senior Mike Babula also had a fifth-place finish in the 50 free (22.35).
"They're probably the fastest tandem in Maine East history in the last 20 years," Przekota said of Babula and Pokorski.
The Blue Demons came in seventh with 75 points.

Maine South
The Hawks finished third with 179 points. Seniors Marco Padron and Makai Deneve-Arnam finished first (21.62) and second (21.81), respectively, in the 50 free. They each earned a trip to state. Two Maine South relay teams also made the state cut: the 200 free and the 400 free teams of Padron, Deneve-Arnam, junior Philip Wachowski and junior Jonathan Ramoska.
The Hawks posted a time of 1:27.13 in the 200 and 3:13.08 in the 400. Both relay teams finished second.

Notre Dame
The Dons placed 10th and scored eight points at the sectional. All their points came in the first event of the day when the Dons took ninth in the 200 medley relay. Senior James Zegler, junior Kevin Kubla, senior Elijah Mendez and senior Michael Hernandez finished with a time of 2:01.00.
No individual Dons finished in the top 12.
MAINE SOUTH BOYS BASKETBALL SECTIONAL

A quick overview of area teams and players to keep an eye on as the playoffs get under way

BY MATT HARNESS
mhamess@pioneerlocal.com, @hamesspreps

In advance of the Class 4A Maine South boys basketball sectional, which tips off Monday, Pioneer Press staff writer Matt Harness examined the bracket.

CHALK

There is no controversy at the top of the sectional as both No. 1 Loyola and No. 2 Maine South clearly deserved the top seeds.

The Catholic North was one of the best conferences in the Chicago area this season, and Loyola finished 10-1 to earn a share of the league title. The Ramblers, who entered the week 20-5 overall, also own quality wins over Evanston, New Trier, Notre Dame and St. Viator outside of the conference. Maine South went 10-0 in the CSL South to capture the conference championship, sweeping both the Wildkits and the Trevians in the process. The Hawks came into this week 21-6.

If the seeds hold, the sectional final between Loyola and Maine South would be the first meeting between two of the best coaches in the area - the Ramblers' Tom Livatino and the Hawks' Tony Lavorato. Livatino recently was named the Catholic North's coach of the year. In his 11th season, Lavorato tied the program record for all-time wins (194) with Friday's 44-34 victory over Glenbrook South.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

JON ARENAS
MAINE SOUTH
SOPHOMORE GUARD
Since late January, the 6-foot-3 varsity rookie has established himself as a go-to scorer, averaging 12 points a game. That is nearly 4 points above his season average.

AMMAR BECAR
NOTRE DAME
SOPHOMORE FORWARD
The 6-6 post has the ability to dominate down low, and he often is tasked with carrying the Dons — who start a single senior — on both offense and defense.

WILL JONES
EVANSTON
SENIOR GUARD
In his first season as a starter, the 6-1 Jones does a little bit of everything on the court, even serving as an extension of the coaching staff.

KEVIN KUCERA
LOYOLA
SENIOR GUARD
The 6-1 point guard makes the Ramblers go. The all-Catholic North player can score and distribute the ball, and he's one of the team's best on-ball defenders.

DUANTE STEPHENS
NILES NORTH
SENIOR GUARD
Stephens is one of the most explosive scorers in the CSL. He dropped in 27 points in Friday's 78-69 win against Maine West.

Niles North's Duante Stephens puts up a shot during the Jan. 4 home game against Carmel. Stephens scored 27 points Friday against Maine West. / MIC SUMMER/STF SUn-TIMES MEDIA

SLEEPER

Even though Niles North doesn't have the sexiest record this season — it was 14-14 after the weekend — Glenn Olson has proven he can coach in the playoffs, having won three regional titles in a row and a sectional championship in 2010. Plus, senior guard Duante Stephens, a 6-foot-3 wing who transferred from Notre Dame after his junior season, is one of the most athletically gifted players in the sectional and capable of scoring 30 points or more in any game.

The Vikings could meet Maine South at home in the Niles North regional final. It would be a rematch of last year's sectional semifinal, which Niles North won 45-44 at Glenbrook North.
As the 2014 Winter Olympics drew to a close, the excitement began for the 2016 Summer Games - but not for Kohei Jinno of Japan. The next Summer Olympics, in 2020, will be held in Tokyo, where Jinno's house is being torn down to make room for a new stadium for the games. Hey, it happens. But get this - the exact same thing happened to poor Jinno back in 1964, the last time the Summer Olympics were held in Tokyo. His house at that time was also razed so a stadium could be constructed.


UFC - Ultimate Fighting Championship - is challenging boxing as the world's most popular fighting sport. Hard to believe, given that it all happened in just 20 years. The very first UFC event was held in November of 1993 in Denver, and was the brainchild of advertising executive Art Davie, concert promoter Bob Meyrowitz and jujitsu expert Rorion Gracie, who worked with Hollywood director John Milius to come up with the wire cage setting. In only two decades, UFC grew into a $2 billion business.

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Niles West's Sergei Lemesh swims in the 200-yard freestyle during the Niles North boys swimming sectional Saturday. JON DURIEFFOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA
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