A GOLDEN HONOR
Local science teacher nabs prestigious Golden Apple award | PAGE 6
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EDUCATION
They walk on for water
A book about a young Sudanese girl’s daily journey to find clean water inspired Golf Middle School fifth-graders to simulate her experience during a four-hour walk that raised money to build a drinking water well in Sudan. Page 12
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Park View School math and science teacher wins prestigious Golden Apple Award

BY NATALIE HAYES
For Sun-Times Media I @NatHayReporter

Park View School teacher Michael Novak thought Wednesday was just a typical day — until a TV news crew and a slew of friends and family burst into his Morton Grove classroom to surprise him with the Golden Apple Award.

Novak's 15-year teaching career earned him a 2014 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching, a prestigious recognition bestowed on only 10 teachers in the Chicago metropolitan area each year. Novak teaches math and science at Park View.

Fellow science teachers Lisa Brody and Keetra Tipton described Novak as an enthusiastic and dedicated educator with a unique teaching style that makes every student feel important.

"He's special for so many reasons — especially his passion and his ability to coach both students and teachers," Brody said. "He's in your corner all the time as a teacher and as a teammate, and we're strong because of him."

The winners of this year's Golden Apple Award were selected from a pool of 620 teachers who were nominated from fourth through eighth grades level, according to Eileen Rochford, communications director for Golden Apple.

The Golden Apple Award also honors elementary-level and high school teachers in alternating years.

Novak's entire family, including his wife Dawn, two sons, and parents Bob and Kathy Novak attended the surprise celebration Wednesday.

Teaching seems to be in the Novak family's blood. Bob and Kathy Novak are retired teachers, and Dawn Novak is a math specialist at Grayslake High School.

With master's and bachelor's degrees in mechanical engineering, Michael Novak started his career at large corporations like Fermilab and Caterpillar before realizing his true passion was in teaching.

He taught middle school in Champaign for five years, then moved to the Chicago area where he's continued teaching for the past decade.

Bob Novak remembers one day when the family went to a Chicago Bears game at Soldier Field and Michael was in a wheelchair from a recent minor injury.

"We were there at the Bears game, and there he was sitting in his wheelchair grading papers and working on curriculum," Bob Novak said. "He's consumed with constantly making things better for the kids, and he's so deserving of this award."

Novak was at first speechless as he accepted the surprise award from CBS Channel 2 anchor Rob Johnson, whose cameraman burst into his afternoon science class with a long line of supporters trailing behind.

"I was hoping everything was OK, but then when I saw everyone coming in I got really excited," he said.

Novak said the Golden Apple Award symbolizes something bigger than what he does as a teacher, and that it extends to the whole Park View School community.

"I'm so happy we won the award for the school. I think we sometimes forget how special Park View is," Novak said.

Recipients of the Golden Apple Award receive $3,000 in cash and a tuition-free spring-quarter sabbatical to study at Northwestern University.

The teachers are also honored with an induction into the fellowship of the Golden Apple Academy of Educators, where they become instructors in ongoing professional development programs led by Golden Apple.

All recipients of the 2014 Golden Apple Awards will be honored at a black-tie gala Oct. 24 at WTTW/Channel 11 Studios in Chicago. The award ceremony will be broadcast following the event, according to a press release from Golden Apple.

"We're beyond excited that his efforts in teaching have been recognized," said Phil Collins, superintendent of Morton Grove School District 70. "Not only is his work phenomenal, but he's a deep and caring person."
Accused father, son post bond with rubies, diamonds

BY KIM JANSEN
kjasen@suntimes.com / @kimjnews

A father and son accused of a big-time education scam agreed to pay a pirate's ransom Wednesday — posting a stash of diamonds and rubies to stay free.

Millionaires Jowhar Soultanali, 58, of Morton Grove, and his son Kabir Kassam, 34, of Wheeling, were charged last week with bribing public officials with cash, Caribbean cruises and strip club visits.

It was all part of a scheme to con taxpayers out of $33 million by scoring government contracts for their Niles-based businesses, Brilliance Academy Inc. and Babbage Net School Inc., the feds say.

And on Wednesday, Soultanali and Kassam showed off some of their wealth, agreeing to hand over diamond and ruby rings and earrings and other property worth a total of $500,000 each to the U.S. District Court so that they can stay free on bond while they fight the charges.

The men also agreed to turn over deeds to five homes in Morton Grove, Wheeling and Skokie, life insurance policies, and three of their five luxury vehicles, a small fleet that includes Lexuses, a BMW, an Infiniti and a Camaro muscle car.

Brilliancy and Babbage allegedly made the loot ripping off school districts in 19 states by overcharging for after-school education programs that weren't provided and falsifying evidence of students' progress.

The companies were paid at least $23 million by Chicago Public Schools since 2005, Chicago Public Schools records show. It's not clear how much of that money — if any — may have been fraud.

Prosecutors last week said Soultanali and Kassam recently sent $5 million to Dubai, though the men insist there was nothing illegal about that.

Judge James Zagel on Wednesday ordered Brilliance and Babbage to file monthly financial reports with the court, to prevent any profits from being embezzled while the case plays out.

School employee charged with stealing $2,000

SUN-TIMES MEDIA WIRE

A woman has been charged with stealing at least $2,000 from the District 63 elementary school where she worked as an administrative assistant.

Marisol Sukhu, 40, took the money between December 2013 and April 2014 from registration fees paid by parents of students at Stevenson School at 5000 Capital Dr. in unincorporated Maine Township, according to the Cook County State's Attorney's office. The school serves parts of Park Ridge and unincorporated Maine Township.

She paid some of the money back when East Maine School District officials confronted her about the missing funds in April, a statement from prosecutors said.

Sukhu, a Des Plaines resident, was arrested Wednesday and released on her own recognizance Thursday, prosecutors said. She faces one felony count of theft over $500 from a school.

She is next scheduled to appear in court June 10 in Skokie.

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In accordance with FAA, TSA, Compact, and other applicable federal, state and local government regulatory requirements. Responsibilities include working with the Assistant Airport Manager and various division managers to manage and direct the financial, land, business, security, construction and related functions of the airport. The incumbent is accountable for accomplishing airport planning and operational goals and objectives and for furthering the Authority's goals and objectives within general policy guidelines. Follow instructions below to learn more about the education/experience and requirements of this position.

Please fill out an application form and submit, in PDF format, a cover letter, resume and a minimum of three professional references by accessing and using the following site: www.altoinc.com/individuals

The deadline for submission is Friday, May 30th, 2014
The second meeting on the proposed changes to Pace bus routes throughout Niles will be held on June 12, at the Niles Public Library.

During the meeting, Niles residents will get a chance to see possible changes to the Niles Free Bus routes. Since the beginning of this year, the village and Pace have been working to improve the routes and figure out the best way to integrate it into the new Arterial Rapid Transit service buses along Milwaukee Avenue.

The meeting will be divided into two sessions, and residents are welcome to attend whichever session is the most convenient for them.

There are currently three Niles Free Bus routes. Route 411 serves most of the village in a winding, bi-directional loop, linking together all the major destinations. Route 412 serves Golf Mill Mall and several other retailers on the north end of Niles. Route 413 services provide on the south end of the village.

Niles is also served by eight regular Pace bus routes. The suburban transit agency plans to improve service along Route 270, which travels along Milwaukee Avenue from Golf Mill Mall to Chicago's Jefferson Park neighborhood. The Arterial Rapid Transit service 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.

Since January, the Pace and the Village of Niles have been looking for ways to improve Niles Free Bus service and figure out the best way to integrate it with ART. It plans to unveil its findings at the June 12 meeting and give the public an opportunity to comment.

To accommodate residents' schedules, it will be divided into two identical sessions. During each session, residents will get the presentation about the project findings, and they will have a chance to look at the displays and ask questions.

The first session will take place between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., with the presentation taking place at 1:30 p.m. The second session will take place between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m., with the presentation taking place at 6:30 p.m. Residents are welcome to stop in at any time during either session.

In addition to the meeting, Pace will be holding three pop-up meetings throughout Niles. The first meeting will be held on May 28 at the Niles Family Fitness Center, between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. The second meeting will be held on May 31, at the Jewel-Osco on the corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Oakton Street, between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. The final pop-up meeting will be held later that day at Golf Mill Mall's Center Court, between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

The meeting will be divided into two sessions. There will be a chance to see possible changes to the Niles Free Bus and is holding two public hearings on the matter.

The first meeting will take place June 12 at the village hall. The second meeting will take place June 14 at the library. The city is encouraged to attend both sessions.

The city is also encouraged to attend both sessions. The city is looking for ways to improve service along Route 270, which travels along Milwaukee Avenue from Golf Mill Mall to Chicago's Jefferson Park neighborhood. The city is also planning to improve service along Route 411, which travels along Milwaukee Avenue from Golf Mill Mall to Chicago's Jefferson Park neighborhood.

The city is also planning to improve service along Route 413, which travels along Milwaukee Avenue from Golf Mill Mall to Chicago's Jefferson Park neighborhood. The city is also planning to improve service along Route 412, which travels along Milwaukee Avenue from Golf Mill Mall to Chicago's Jefferson Park neighborhood.

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Committee softens controversial
Niles tree ordinance

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
For Sun-Times Media | @istudenkov

Many of the controversial items in a pitch to regulate trees in Niles have been dropped by the village’s Environmental Practices Committee.

When the ordinance was initially introduced in January, many residents complained that the tree ordinance went too far, infringing on private property rights. At a meeting May 7, the committee relaxed the original proposal’s rules for trees on private property, allowing residents to plant trees and cut smaller trees without asking the village’s permission.

Residents would still be required to get permission to cut down larger trees, unless there’s an emergency. The committee hopes to have the revised version ready for the Board of Trustees vote by the June meeting.

The tree ordinance was originally devised as a way to protect trees on both public and private property. Many residents took issue with the private property portions. Under the original proposal, property owners would have needed to obtain a permit if they wanted to remove trees on their property, and residents could not remove trees unless they were dead, diseased or interfering with construction. It would be up to the village forester to determine if their request met any of those conditions, and property owners would need to obtain a permit if they wanted to plant a new tree.

The version approved at the end of the meeting allows residents to remove any tree less than 10 inches in diameter without a permit. Anything wider would still require a permit, and the tree would need to be removed by a licensed and insured arborist.

As in the previous version, the village would have the power to remove dead, infected or diseased trees if property owners refuse to remove them. However, the revised ordinance no longer allows the village forester to simply enter private property to determine the status of a tree, requiring instead that the village staff follow due process.

If residents wanted to plant a tree, they would not need a permit, but the ordinance encourages them to get one either 14 days before or 14 days after they plant it. The committee envisioned the permitting process as a way to keep track of which trees get planted while giving owners some leeway.

Residents will also be able to make an appointment with the village forester to ask questions or get advice about planting trees or any other tree-related issues. The ordinance will also go to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for feedback.

The committee hopes that the department will finish its review in time to get the ordinance on the agenda for the June Village Board meeting.

Bob Bell, a Niles resident who came to the Environmental Practices Committee meeting, said he was satisfied with the revisions.

“I was going to comment about my many concerns,” he said. “You resolved all the concerns I did have, so I have nothing to say.”

But resident Joe Walsh still had reservations.

“I think requiring people to get a permit to remove a tree is wrong,” he said. “I’m quite concerned as to what it will lead to.”

Walsh said he was worried that requiring permits would pave the way for abuse of power.

“We are gradually having our freedoms eroded,” he said. “It’s my private property.”

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POLICE BLOTTER

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

NILES

RETAIL THEFT
Gregory Jefferson, 53, of 7333 N. Ridge Ave., Chicago, was charged with felony retail theft on May 3 after he allegedly stole body spray, lotion, deodorant, a package of lighters and a Blackhawk's hat from Meijer. The items were valued at $73. He had a May 9 court date.

Sade Turner, 20, of 3001 Green Bay Road, North Chicago, was charged with retail theft on May 4 after she allegedly stole 67 items, valued at $500, from a store on the 8500 block of Golf Road. Police said Turner concealed the items inside a suitcase and paid only for the suitcase at the register. She had a May 12 court date.

MORTON GROVE

THEFT
Elizabeth Kallao, 52, of Dearborn, Mich., was charged with theft May 7 after she was arrested for allegedly stealing two bottles of perfume valued at a total of $50 from a Morton Grove store. She is scheduled to appear in court June II.

Victor Derbenev, 30, of Glenview, was charged with possession of stolen property May 2 after he was arrested at Beckwith Road and Lehigh Avenue in Morton Grove. Police said Derbenev was pulled over for a traffic violation and a stolen wallet and several credit cards were found in his vehicle. He is scheduled to appear in court June 30.

DRUGS
Steven Akhteebo, 23, of Morton Grove, was charged with possession of cannabis May 4 after he was arrested at Theobald Road and Menard Avenue in Morton Grove. Police said Akhteebo was stopped for a traffic violation, and an officer allegedly found marijuana in his vehicle. A court date is scheduled for May 2.

DUI
Christopher Jennick, 25, of Niles, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol May 3 after he was arrested at Orile Avenue and Dempster Street in Morton Grove. Police said Jennick was pulled over for a traffic violation and later failed roadside sobriety tests. He is scheduled to appear in court June II.

Dipak Lakha, 48, of Morton Grove, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol May 4 after he was arrested at Beckwith Road and Austin Avenue in Morton Grove. Police said Lakha was stopped for a traffic violation and later failed sobriety tests. A court date is scheduled for June II.

CRIME BRIEFS

Niles police investigated eight reports of theft and two burglaries between April 25 and May 4, according to police reports.

A Niles bank contacted police on April 25 after discovering that a 64-year-old Park Ridge man had cashed two bad checks totaling $7,425 on March 21 and then withdrew the money the same day. When contacted, the man reportedly told police he received the checks "from the Internet" and did not know they were fraudulent. An officer spoke to the man who reportedly said he would work out a restitution plan with the bank.

On April 25, a 92-year-old Skokie man's wallet fell to the floor at a grocery store on the 7900 block of Milwaukee Avenue and was picked up by a woman who then walked out of the store with it, police said.

A 47-year-old Buffalo Grove man told police that a purse containing two cell phones and $1,000 in cash was stolen from his car on April 26 while it was parked at 800 Civic Center Drive. A window was broken to gain entry.

A window was smashed and a purse was stolen from a vehicle on April 26 while it was parked in a lot on the 8300 block of Milwaukee Avenue. The purse contained a Kindle and iPod, police said.

On April 29, a man allegedly left a store on the 8500 block of Touhy Avenue without paying for two bottles of orange juice and a computer hard drive. After being escorted back to the store's loss prevention office, the man dropped the merchandise, as well as his keys, and ran out of the store heading east across Central Avenue, police said.

A cell phone was reported stolen May 2 from one of two churches that are located on the 7300 block of Caldwell Avenue. A man was seen at both churches that day, telling a secretary in one of the buildings that he needed money, police said.

A woman's purse was stolen May 3 after she left it behind in a shopping cart in a parking lot on the 7300 block of Melvina Avenue. Another purse was reported stolen May 6 from a parking lot on the 7900 block of Milwaukee Avenue after it was left behind in a shopping cart as well.

A home on the 7000 block of Monroe Street was burglarized between 7:30 and 8:55 a.m. May 2. A resident told police she returned home to find her rear door open. Police did not indicate what, if anything, was taken.

Overnight between May 3 and May 4, a garage was burglarized on the 8200 block of Washington Street and spare change, CDs and a wallet containing $43 in cash were stolen from vehicles parked inside.

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A book about a young Sudanese girl’s daily journey to find clean water inspired Golf Middle School fifth-graders to simulate her experience during a four-hour walk that raised money to build a drinking water well in Sudan.

About 67 students and 15 parents dedicated four hours of their day May 7 to walk around the school’s track in the spirit of the novel, “A Long Walk to Water” by Linda Sue Park. The book is based on the true story of Salva Dut, a Sudanese boy who escapes a life of poverty by moving to the U.S. He later returns to Sudan and builds a well for a young Sudanese girl named Nya.

Before Dut built the well, Nya gave up her education to make a daily eight-hour journey to find water and bring it back for her family.

Between reading the book and simulating Nya’s trek for water, fifth-grade teacher Amy Feinstein said she hopes her students took away an important lesson that many of the things kids in the U.S. take for granted aren’t as easy to come by for all children.

“They had no idea people live like this in present day,” Feinstein said. “We hope they’ll realize how fortunate we are.”

Besides gaining a better understanding of the struggles young children endure to help their families survive, the walk had a deeper purpose — to raise money for “Water for South Sudan,” a nonprofit program created by Dut that drills wells for villages in South Sudan.

Parents and teachers sold water bottles and snacks to the walkers, with the proceeds going toward the charity.

By the end of the walk, Golf students raised about $300 that will go toward the cost of one well for a Sudanese village, which costs about $5,000, Feinstein said.

“I’m so proud to see their philanthropic hearts open up,” she said. “It’s an important message to send to 11-year-olds: that they can do something to make a difference.”

The book was introduced to the fifth-grade teachers by student Zachary Hirsch, who developed what he calls a “fascination with Africa” after his grandmother gave him two books about wildlife and how people live in the region.

Hirsch, who said he wants to be a zoologist when he grows up, gathered his classmates together to create a proposal asking the teachers to let them plan the “walk for water.”

“I’m very aware of the inequalities that exist in the world,” Hirsch said. “What we’re doing isn’t even a quarter of how far some kids have to walk every day, and I think doing this walk teaches us how much we have compared to how little other kids have.”

Zachary’s dad, Craig Hirsch, was one of a handful of parents who came out to the school to support the students.

“I see a lot of kids being empowered by this,” he said.
New teachers’ contract approved for high schools

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
For Sun-Times Media | @istudenkov

The Maine Township District 207 Board of Education approved a 5-year contract with the Maine Township Teachers Association on May 5.

The agreement, which the teachers’ union ratified a week earlier, calls for salary increases and the new merit pay structure while amending some aspects of the teachers’ health insurance coverage.

The contract will kick in at the start of the 2015-2016 school year and continue until the 2020-2021 school year. The district touted the contract as a “win-win” for both parties.

The contract was largely an extension of the previous contract. Several aspects were amended, and some new aspects were added.

Under the agreement, the teachers will get a 2 percent pay increase for the first school year of the contract. During the next four years, the increases will be linked to annual Consumer Price Index. The district touted it as an important change, because its property tax levies are also tied to CPI. The teachers also agreed to merit pay atop of their regular salaries — something few other districts in Illinois have.

The agreement has also restructured teachers’ salary schedules. In the past, teachers would get salary increases in 25 “steps” that depend on the level of education and experience. The number of steps was increased to 30, with the 30th step reserved for teachers who taught for 30 years and earned a Masters Degree or higher.

The teachers will see no increases in their healthcare costs. However, the agreement did add some new containment provisions, including a provision designed to account for the so-called “Cadillac tax” — the 40 percent tax on healthcare plans whose premiums exceed $10,200. The tax was approved as part of the Affordable Care Act, and it will take effect in 2018.

In the statement sent to Pioneer Press after the meeting, Board President Margaret McGrath said the contract was fair to everyone involved.

“The settlement is fair to all parties, fiscally conservative for our taxpayers, and it provides long-term cost savings to the District,” she said.

In the same statement, Maine Teachers Association President Mike Poehler struck a similar tone.

“The MTA worked with the Board of Education to extend our current agreement with a goal of creating a mutually beneficial financial arrangement,” he said.

“The agreement helps stabilize our financial arrangement,” he said.

“The agreement helps stabilize a financial base that ensures a rich curricular environment with diverse elective and core class offerings as well as extra curricular activities for the students of Maine Township High Schools well into the future.”

Longtime Maine Township Assessor Tom Rueckert dies

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
johnson@pioneerlocal.com | @Jen_Pioneer

A wake was held Friday, May 9 for Maine Township Assessor Tom Rueckert, who died May 6 after battling lung disease. He was 73.

Rueckert, of Glenview, served as Township assessor since he was first elected in 1985. A retired criminal investigator for the Illinois Department of Revenue and former attorney for the city of Des Plaines, Rueckert also served as president of the Maine Township High School District 207 Board of Education and as chairman of the Oakton Community College Law Enforcement Advisory Committee.

“Tom was a good friend and a wonderful public servant who went above and beyond the call of his office to faithfully serve the residents and taxpayers of Maine Township for nearly three decades,” said Township Supervisor Carol Teschky in a statement. “He and his staff helped an estimated 150,000 people with their real estate tax exemptions, complaints, and general real estate tax questions, always with a kind word and helpful attitude. He will be missed.”

Rueckert was re-elected to a four-year term as assessor in 2013. Visitations were from 3 to 9 p.m. at Colonial-Wojcikowski Funeral Home, 8025 W. Golf Road in Niles. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the American Lung Association were requested.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara; children Timothy and Elizabeth; and grandchildren Rudy, Max, Jake, Katlin, Kelsey and Kiley.
Police Gang slogans yelled, car window broken with golf club

A woman stands accused of breaking a car window with a golf club while another yelled gang slogans in the middle of a busy Niles club while another yelled gang slogans belonging to a rival street gang.

Police said the incident occurred on the 9100 block of Golf Road at 10:30 a.m., May 3.

Two men, whom police identified as self-admitted members of a local street gang, told police they were driving west on Golf Road when they ran out of gas near Omega Restaurant, 9100 W. Golf Road. The men, ages 21 and 28, reported that a blue car stopped behind them and a woman got out holding a golf club while she yelled slogans belonging to a rival street gang.

The 21-year-old man told police that he wrestled the golf club out of the woman's hand and threw it in the grass near the restaurant, but a second woman picked up the club and broke the back windshield of the man's 1992 Cadillac Deville.

Both women reportedly fled before police arrived, though the 21-year-old man identified a nearby apartment complex in unincorporated Maine Township as the home of one of the women.

Police said the men pushed their damaged car into a parking lot at 9009 Golf Road and then walked to a nearby gas station to get gas before officers arrived.

NILES PUBLIC LIBRARY
Now interim library director picked

Niles Public Library business manager Greg Pritz was named interim director during a special April 24 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The appointment came a week after the board announced the retirement of library director Linda Weiss. Board President Morgan Dubeil said Pritz's executive experience and his role in the renovation project. But not all trustees approved the appointment, with Trustee Barbara Nakanishi arguing that he was appointed at the expense of the library's two assistant directors.

Pritz became the library's business manager in August 2013, filling a vacancy that lasted more than a year. Before taking the job, he spent most of his career in the private sector, serving as president of Hopkins Asset Advisors for seven months and Chief Financial Officer at Chicago-based Ennis Knupp & Associates for seven years.

The director position opened after Weiss chose to take advantage of the library's Retirement Incentive Program, which gives employees ages 55 and older a lump sum of money to cover health insurance costs if they retire. Her retirement takes effect on June 30.

DISTRICT 67
Hynes School burglarized, computers and projectors stolen

Morton Grove police are searching for one or more suspects they believe burglarized Hynes School overnight Tuesday. Police said someone pried open a screen and entered the K-4 school through a window on the north side of the building at 9000 Belleforte Ave. sometime between 9:30 p.m. May 5 and 7 a.m. May 6.

Staff who opened the school Wednesday morning found three connected classrooms had been ransacked, and multiple electronic items were missing.

The stolen items include five computer towers, two projectors and a netbook computer, according to Morton Grove Police Commander Paul Yaras.

Police recovered two of the missing computer towers in a neighbor's bushes during a search of the neighborhood near the school Wednesday morning, Yaras said.

The school building incurred minor damage when the screen windows were pried open. The value of the stolen electronic items hadn't been determined as of Wednesday afternoon.

The only areas in the school that appeared to have been disturbed were the three classrooms, police said.

A school burglary is an uncommon crime, Yaras said, adding that no witnesses had been found after police canvassed the neighborhood.

Police are asking anyone with information about the break-in to call the Morton Grove Police Department at 847-470-5200.

MORTON GROVE
Village to host recycling event

The Village of Morton Grove will host a combined Document Destruction and Electronics Recycling event from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 17, at the Civic Center, 6140 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove.

As residents drive up in their vehicles, workers will unload the paper documents and electronics. Typical documents to shred include medical forms, bank statements, personal files and retired tax forms. Staples and paper clips are acceptable, but binders should be removed. Residents will be limited to six file-size boxes or paper shopping bags per vehicle. Do not bring paper in plastic bags.

What is your son doing this summer?

CAMP ST. JOHN'S NORTHWESTERN 2014

A high-energy adventure camp for young men ages 11-16 promoting physical activity, leadership, self-confidence and teamwork ... while having fun!

Paintball • Rappelling/Rock Climbing
"THE MUD PIT" • Archery • Obstacle Course
Water Survival • SCUBA Diving

Session 1: July 6-12 Session 3: July 20-26
Session 2: July 13-19 Session 4: July 27-August 2

St. John's Northwestern Military Academy
1101 Genesee Street • Delafield, WI 53018 • admissions@sjnma.org

Summer School

A five-week academic program for young men in grades 7-12. We emphasize hands-on, project-based learning in traditional academic areas and we offer unique opportunities including:

Aviation • Horsemanship • Sailing
ACT Prep • JROTC • Language Studies

June 28 - August 2, 2014

SJNMA is located on a 110-acre campus in Delafield, Wisconsin. Located in the heart of Waukesha County's "Lake Country," Delafield is 35 minutes west of Milwaukee and one hour east of Madison, adjacent to US 1-94.

Call or click today to learn more: 1-800-752-2338
www.sjnma.org/summer-programs
9 tips to turn clutter into cash

HELP SQUAD BY JACKIE PILOSSOPH

In every household, "stuff" accumulates. The kids get older and outgrow clothing, toys and books. Styles change and women's clothing, accessories and jewelry become outdated and sit in the closet. Old sports equipment and bikes alone can fill up half a garage!

This week, instead of helping you save money, Help Squad has devoted our column to giving you tips on how to make money by getting rid of some of your stuff.

With the help of Bonnie Shay, the owner of Highland Park-based professional organizing company Mariposa Creative Solutions, Help Squad came up with nine tips on how de-cluttering your home can lead to big bucks.

1. **Consign your clothing:** If either you or your spouse happens to be a clothes horse, take advantage of consignment shops where you can drop off unwanted clothing, shoes, accessories and jewelry and get paid when they sell. There are several consignment shops in Chicago and the 'burbs, and all have different niches. So, whether you shop at Target for clothes or you tend to go for expensive designer brands, there is a store that is willing to consign most items. And if they don't end up selling, the store usually gives you a choice of coming to pick them up or donating them to a charity on your behalf.

2. **Consign other things:** Consignment is also an option for items such as furniture, antiques, crystal, art, home décor and sporting goods. Help Squad completed an extensive online search and found several suburban consignment shops that specialize in each of these categories, including Full Circle in Glenview that takes antiques, art china and crystal, Renew Family Consignment in Libertyville that accepts sports equipment and women's and kids' clothing, On The Road Again, with shops in Orland Park and Plainfield that take furniture, home décor and vintage jewelry, and Village Treasure House in Northbrook that buys and sells home furnishings.

3. **Swap.com:** This is an online consignment store that buys and sells anything related to babies and kids, including clothing, shoes, movies, books, toys, games, décor, maternity clothes and sporting equipment.

4. **eBay and Craigslist:** These sites are both great for selling collectibles and other unique or high-priced items.

5. **Sell used books:** Take advantage of the many used bookstores around the Chicago area that will give you cash for your books, including Half-Price Books with many locations, and Powell's Books. And if you have a rare or unique book that's in good condition, it might be valuable. Round Table Books in Winnetka buys and sells rare, antiquarian and collectible books.

6. **Sell old CDs and DVDs:** There are many stores looking to give you cash for CDs you'll never listen to again and movies you have no interest in owning any longer. In addition to books, Half Price Books also buys music, movies, games, game consoles and e-readers. Also, check out Mundo Musical in Aurora, Oak Park Records in Oak Park, Second Hand Tunes in Evanston, Remember When in Westmont, Disc Replay with stores in Bolingbrook, Orland Park and Joliet, and Kiss The Sky in Geneva.

7. **Sell your old gold jewelry:** So many jewelry stores are looking to buy gold. A great way to start the process of selling gold you don't mind parting with is to go to GoldPriceOz.com, a website that updates every minute what gold is selling for per ounce. The best part about selling your jewelry is you can either accept or refuse a store's offer. The choice is yours.

8. **Donate items:** Giving your stuff to a charity isn't going to earn you quick cash, however, there are benefits to donating your clutter. In addition to engaging in a benevolent, charitable act, you get the benefit of writing off the value on your income taxes. So, while you're helping others, you're helping your wallet.

9. **Have a garage sale:** It takes a lot of time and hard work, but garage sales can bring in lots of cash if planned and implemented well.

Tips for successful garage sales:
- **Price things to move.** People shopping at garage sales are looking for bargains.
- **Hang clothing to give it a more attractive appearance.** Plus, it's easier to see.
- **Play enjoyable music to create an inviting atmosphere.**
- **Team up with other families to increase merchandise.**
- **Advertise well.**
- **Sell treats, such as cookies and lemonade.**
- **Put the "good stuff" out front so it looks impressive to those driving by.**
- **Put price tags on everything so customers don't have to ask.** That makes decision-making easier.

The Best Teaching Corps In The Country

Cinda Klickna
Illinois Education Association President

As the academic year ends, and graduates get ready to apply for teaching positions, it is a good time to think about the health of the education profession in our state.

We can all agree that high quality teachers are the key to high performing schools. That's why the Illinois Education Association (IEA) is focused on attracting and retaining the best teaching corps in the country. Unfortunately, this task seems to be getting more and more difficult.

Studies show that more than 15 percent of all teachers leave the profession each year. The attrition rate is even higher among early career professionals, with nearly half of all teachers leaving education within their first five years, citing increased class sizes, cuts in programs for students due to lack of appropriate revenue, and accountability measures that are used to punish, rather than improve their craft, among other things. All of this turnover has a price. It not only harms our students, but the cost of recruiting and training new teachers to replace those who exit the profession early is estimated to exceed $7 billion annually.

While the education profession has always been known for its grueling working hours, recent cuts have led to larger class sizes as well as less time to plan lessons and collaborate with fellow professionals. In a very direct way, teachers' working conditions are the same as students' learning conditions, so the negative impact of these changes affects us all.

We're also now seeing the effect of the recent cuts to pension benefits. Most people aren't aware of this, but teachers in Illinois don't receive Social Security. So when the state fails to uphold its contracts with teachers, many new and prospective teachers are forced to look at professions that offer more security than education.

But, if you ask me, the single largest reason we're having increased difficulty attracting and retaining high quality teachers has nothing to do with teaching conditions, budgets or benefits. The most significant threat to our teaching corps is the demonization of education professionals by politicians and special interest groups across the state.

I've worked in education my entire adult life and spent more than 25 years in the classroom. For most of that time, teachers were regarded as leaders of their communities and recognized for their service improving the lives of our students, much like they are regarded in other countries.

But now, many politicians are blaming teachers for their own political failures and using their megaphones and campaign cash to attack those who work in schools. It's worth noting that, in countries where teachers and their good work are treated with respect, it is much easier to attract and retain top quality teachers and teaching candidates.

In the face of all these assaults on educators, IEA is utilizing a number of initiatives to help strengthen Illinois' teaching corps. To attract new teachers, IEA provides education majors with mentoring by current and retired teachers, and helps future educators learn many aspects of the profession. These tips include classroom management, understanding of state laws, and ways to engage students and parents.

The IEA also offers online training and conferences to help our teachers navigate through the ever-changing state laws, such as their evaluations and the Illinois Learning Standards. For our newest members who have a strong interest in community service projects that benefit their students, IEA (with assistance from the National Education Association) offered 100 grants of up to $1,000 in a program called SCORE (Schools and Community Outreach by Educators). The teachers and support staff who received grants are making key school and neighborhood connections and are finding huge support from their communities, all for their students.

IEA is a professional association and union that fully bolsters the teachers and support staff who help our students succeed. But, to make sure our students get the education they deserve, we need your help building up our teaching corps and standing against those trying to attack the profession.

A message from:

IEA NEA ILLINOIS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
OPINION

LETTERS

District 207 too quick to toot own horn

We all like accolades, and Dr. Wallace wasted no time in spreading it around to all the schools and staff of Maine South, West, and East High Schools. He also mentioned our elementary schools in their contributions to District 207 achieving the Washington Post's list of "America's Most Challenging High Schools".

What is surprising is the ACT test scores don't reflect anything exceptional about District 207 schools. Both Maine East and West are below the national average of 20.9. Maine South is better at 24.2 but below Stevenson High in Lincolnshire which is 26.5.

Some of the private schools also do better. St. Viator's in Arlington Heights achieved 26.

The average for all Archdiocese of Chicago high schools comes in at 23.5, leaving Maine East and West trailing at 20.6.

If private schools can do better without spending $200,000 per year per teacher to educate students, perhaps the Board of Trustees should look at alternate educational systems. Public charter schools, much like private schools, offer challenging programs demanding more from students and teachers alike. Some even have Saturday classes when needed. Charter schools eliminate antiquated union work rules and blotted bureaucracies. If the charter school does not achieve its goals, their charter can be revoked. Accountability is required! Something new.

Michael Frey
Park Ridge

Just say no to school food regulations

Bravo to Arlington Heights High School District 214, which last week told the federal government to take its meal subsidy and new regulations on what kids can eat at school and to go scratch.

The school board rejected $900,000 in school meal subsidies for low-income students when it decided to forego the so-called federal Smart Snacks program, heavily touted by first lady Michelle Obama, who sends her kids to a private school. The program restricts what schools can serve kids at lunch and for snacks. New rules would limit snack foods to just 200 calories for kids.

I'm not opposed to healthy eating for kids, or anyone, for that matter. Every one should try to eat healthy. But I'm opposed to the federal government dictating menu choices for two reasons:

1. I'm opposed to Uncle Sam sticking its heavy hand in any individual choice.
2. If the government does it, it probably won't work.

Reason 2 is why Arlington Heights is opting out. They figured out that kids won't eat the food, but will go off campus to buy what they want. They'll only lose money on this bureaucratic mess.

In other words, the initiative won't work. As any parent can advise Uncle Sam, you have to force kids to eat what's good for them.

"In other words, the initiative won't work. As any parent can advise Uncle Sam, you have to force kids to eat what's good for them."

Sam, you have to force kids to eat what's good for them. If I heard my mother say, "Then sit there until you eat it," or "There are starving kids in China," once, I heard it a thousand times.

Mom and dad can get away with food deprivation as a tactic to teach healthy eating.

Mr. Nelson, the gym teacher on lunch duty, can't do that.

But let's talk about the heavy hand of government. If you're like me, you don't want the government telling you what to do. You also think the government makes the little guy — us — pay the price for the sins of the big guy — the food industry.

The federal government has the power to regulate the food industry so it will produce healthier, natural food free of chemicals, growth hormones, bad sugars, salt, etc. But it won't. It would rather tell your kid he can't have a slice of pizza.

Finally, the government refuses to restrict the purchase of junk foods for food stamp recipients because such a policy is belittling and insulting. And it is.

So at school, a kid can't have a bag of Cheetos and a Coke. But once the kid is home,

"FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD!"

"In other words, the initiative won't work. As any parent can advise Uncle Sam, you have to force kids to eat what's good for them."

"FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD!"

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"In other words, the initiative won't work. As any parent can advise Uncle Sam, you have to force kids to eat what's good for them."

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

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

Keep letters to 250 words or fewer. Niles Herald-Spectator reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity and content. All letters must be signed to be published.
Wise men flee from perfume department

There is a place few men dare go. Not out of cowardice. And even though there are pretty women there, men shun it.

It is a store’s perfume area — which, thanks to PBS, I now know originated in Selfridge’s Department Store in England.

One reason guys stay away from the perfume department is there is too much French in it. And all real American men dislike and distrust the French language.

French has no consonants. And consonants are very appealing to men. OK, French does have consonants. But the consonants sound like vowels, making everything run together in a kind of linguistic mush.

And doesn’t French sound phony? Nobody would call a perfume “Smells Good.” But just call it something like “Bon Odour” and you can charge hundreds of dollars for what wouldn’t even fill a shot glass.

And always remember, France is the country that thinks Jerry Lewis is great artist. Enough about France.

The perfume department also assaults a guy’s nose. You can smell it from the parking lot. Not that individual perfumes aren’t nice. But the perfume department is all the individual perfume smells you’ve ever smelled in your life in one place and at one time.

And the pretty, black-garbed saleswomen make it worse by spraying right at you the latest scent, “Le Nuit di mon Grande Erreur.”

Women have built up a tolerance over the years to such scental assaults. Not us guys who only go to the perfume department on Mother’s Day or wedding anniversaries.

The only antidote I know of to the perfume department is to get to an Italian restaurant right away. And take a deeeeeeep breath.
**Featured Home**

**By Aggregate News Service**

8815 N. Elmore St., Niles

**House size:** 1,170 square feet

**Lot size:** 6,250 square feet

**Year built:** 1962

**Bedrooms:** 3

**Bathrooms:** 1.5

**Garage:** Two-car detached

**Property tax:** $3,673.85 (2012)

**Architectural style:** Bilevel

**School districts:** East Maine School District 63 and Maine Township High School District 207

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**House for Sale?** For details on how to get a home listed on the Featured Home page, email homes@wrapports.com or call 312-300-7974.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Property Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niles</td>
<td>8353 W Harrison St: Krystyna Cislo to Nenad Blagojevic for $335,000 on March 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morton Grove</td>
<td>8620 Waukegan Road, #401: Rena Artman to Ramazan Recajo for $140,000 on March 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>6401 Lincoln Ave.</td>
<td>Dale G Eastman, Bonnie L Eastman and Gregory M Eastman to Brian J Ip for $190,500 on March 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Park Ridge</td>
<td>50 N Northwest Highway, #50: Harry N Arger to Gregory Broude and Frances Broude for $372,500 on March 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>1811 W Crescent Ave</td>
<td>Michael A Mullen and Joanne E McGowan to James M Paloyan and Caroline M Paloyan for $867,500 on March 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Des Plaines</td>
<td>1759 Locust St: Brian J Murdy to Robert G Reyes and Jennifer Reyes for $165,000 on March 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>1223 Pomer Road</td>
<td>Bert L Kahn and Erika Kahn to Jeffrey S Groman and Graman Tamara Kushnir for $413,000 on March 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glencoe</td>
<td>1406 Greenwood Road: Krzysztof Schabowski and Monika Kropornicka to Dewproperties Inc for $189,000 on March 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>1811 W Crescent Ave</td>
<td>Michael A Mullen and Joanne E McGowan to James M Paloyan and Caroline M Paloyan for $867,500 on March 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skokie</td>
<td>4814 Greenleaf St: Beverly J Hom to Sidka Cehaja and Cazim C Cehaja for $350,000 on March 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>1221 Middlebury Lane</td>
<td>Keith B Romney III and Sara A Romney to Charles Vukovich and Elizabeth Vukovich for $650,000 on March 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilmette</td>
<td>322 Beverly Drive: Beth R Hollander to Emilian F Pimuta and Ksenia Pimuta for $314,500 on March 28</td>
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<td>Evanston</td>
<td>1227 Darrow Ave: leve A Morales and leve Morales to Erick E Smith for $267,500 on March 25</td>
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<td>650 Winnetka Mews</td>
<td>Marilyn F Winfield Trust, Eavlyn J Winfield Trust and J Winfield Eavlyn Trust to Elizabeth H Regen, Rachel Park and Dale Park Jr for $285,500 on March 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winnetka</td>
<td>199 Church Road: David Foster and Helen Foster to Mark Phelps and Sadie Phelps for $894,000 on March 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>1221 Middlebury Lane</td>
<td>Keith B Romney III and Sara A Romney to Charles Vukovich and Elizabeth Vukovich for $650,000 on March 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>2242 Ridge Ave</td>
<td>Doo Alan J W and Alisan M Doo to Michael Cassidy for $655,000 on March 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>2200 Elmwood Ave.</td>
<td>Robert J Aylsworth and Daniele J Aylsworth to William Fauntleroy for $745,000 on March 24</td>
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<td>3245 Greenleaf St</td>
<td>Beverly J Hom to Sidka Cehaja and Cazim C Cehaja for $350,000 on March 25</td>
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<td>719 Hinman Ave.</td>
<td>Steven Lander and Rachel Lander to Marianne Kontoures for $202,000 on March 28</td>
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<td>1221 Middlebury Lane</td>
<td>Keith B Romney III and Sara A Romney to Charles Vukovich and Elizabeth Vukovich for $650,000 on March 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>912 N Boxwood Drive</td>
<td>Wilford Druzal and Zofia Lewandowska to Ion Contanu for $140,000 on March 25</td>
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<td>Mount Prospect</td>
<td>2019 Avalan Court, #302: Robert F Harris Trust and Elaine Vladem Trust to Randolph Chang and Laura Chang for $280,000 on March 24</td>
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<td>719 Hinman Ave.</td>
<td>Steven Lander and Rachel Lander to Marianne Kontoures for $202,000 on March 28</td>
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<td>Evanston</td>
<td>1227 Darrow Ave: leve A Morales and leve Morales to Erick E Smith for $267,500 on March 25</td>
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<td>5332 N Nagle Ave.</td>
<td>Ernesto Lima to Muriusz Blachaniec and Iwona Blachaniec for $250,000 on March 26</td>
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<td>Bensenville</td>
<td>760 Thomas Drive: Cl Thomas Bnsnvll LLC, Juan L Hinojosa, Sarah Hinojosa and Sarah E Hinojosa to Mnd Ppties LLC for $850,000 on March 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>7142 W Berwyn Ave: William S Haj to Nicole Fonacier for $260,000 on March 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>5348 N Cumberland Ave</td>
<td>Piotr Trzebunia to 5348 Cumberland N Trust for $85,000 on March 26</td>
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Patient safety is our top priority, and it shows. The May 2014 issue of Consumer Reports ranked us 1st and 2nd in Chicago in five key safety areas.

Learn more. Call 877.737.4636 or visit presencehealth.org/safest
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Hiring the right employees is critical, but you can't spend all your time on it. Through our partnership with Monster, Pioneer Press can help you find the right person, faster. It's only part of the comprehensive recruiting solution you'll find with Pioneer Press and Monster. And just one of the ways we're here to help you keep your business running.

Pioneer & monster

Find the right fit for your next job at pioneerlocal.com/monster, or call 847.998.3400.
NILES

THURSDAY, MAY 15

Resume Assistance and Review
5:30 p.m. Schedules a 30-minute appointment to receive individual resume assistance with Bob Podgorski of R.P.P. Enterprises. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Niles Songwriters’ Group
7 p.m. Singers and songwriters share work and give helpful feedback. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Polish Book Discussion
7 p.m. Call to find out what Polish book the group is discussing this month. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

FRIDAY, MAY 16

Rise and Shine Story Time
10 a.m.: A 30-minute story time for children ages 2 to 6 with a caregiver. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Anime and Manga Club
2 p.m.: Watch and discuss anime and manga, then build fun-inspired treats and crafts. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-6434.

MONDAY, MAY 19

Baby Time
11 a.m.: A short program of stories, songs and playtime for children 2 and under with a caregiver. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Yoga for Kids: Stretch, Bend and Breathe
4:30 p.m.: Kids ages 4-8 can learn yoga poses and breathing techniques. No previous experience needed. Attendees are asked to bring a large bath towel and wear comfortable clothes. Kids in second grade and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Citizenship: Spring Session
6 p.m.: Attendance at all classes is mandatory. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

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.

LIBRARY V olunteer Information Session
9:30 a.m.: Learn more about volunteering at the library in this one-hour session, followed by a library tour and informal individual chat. Duties may include helping staff or helping with special events and programs a few hours a week. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

TUESDAY, MAY 20

Adult Computer Beginner Boot Camp
10 a.m.: Learn to use the mouse, keyboard and begin searching the internet. This four-week training session meets Tuesdays through May 27. Registration required. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Park Board of Commissioners
6 p.m.: Meets on the third Tuesday of the month. Howard Leisure Center, 6766 W. Howard St., Niles.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Book Discussion
1 p.m.: The group discusses “The Kitchen House” by Kathleen Grissom. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-6817.

THURSDAY, MAY 22

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, their families and caregivers. 60-minute sessions are available. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. For more information, call 773-508-1054.

Head to the Cloud
8:30 a.m.: Learn about iCloud, Dropbox and other cloud storage and file sharing resources. For ages 21 and older. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

FRIDAY, MAY 23

Library Volunteer Information Session
9:30 a.m.: Learn more about volunteering at the library in this one-hour session, followed by a library tour and informal individual chat. Duties may include helping staff or helping with special events and programs a few hours a week. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

Job Seekers: Power Employment Workshop
9:30 a.m.: Business and Career Services Inc. presents this free nationally recognized program that provides expert guidance on smart goals, resume and cover letter writing, effective job searching and interview techniques. Registration required. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 630-345-0202.

HAPPENING NEARBY

THURSDAY, MAY 15

Digital Craft Time: Make Music on the Web
4:30 p.m.: Learn how to make original music and remix existing tunes on free Web apps, like Incredicoop, Muzic and UJAM. For kids in fourth grade and up. Registration required. Additional program at 5:30 p.m. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-324-3149.

Google Tips and Tricks
7 p.m.: Learn tricks, tools and shortcuts for the world’s most popular website. Registration is limited. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-673-3733.

TAG Meeting
7 p.m.: Teens meet to plan future programming at the library and enjoy pizza. Registration required. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-324-3149.

FRIDAY, MAY 16

Skokie Chamber Breakfast Club
7:30 a.m.: Moderated by Catherine Johns, this monthly meeting offers attendees a chance to speak about their business, network with more than 40 other local professionals and learn about monthly business topics. Fee covers breakfast. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. $12-$15.

Friday Morning Coffee Club
10 a.m.: The group watches “Ethel,” a documentary that provides an insider’s view of political dynasty Ethel Kennedy, 97 minutes. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Lego CodeBots Club
4:30 p.m.: Kids ages 4 to 8 can use Lego WeGo sets to make robots. Registration required. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-324-3149.

Rink Side Sports
5 p.m.: Kids ages 5 to 14 can enjoy a night of arcade games, laser tag, ice skating and pizza at Rink Side Sports in Gurnee. The group departs and returns to the Leisure Center, Maine Park Leisure Center, 2701 W. Sitney St., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-5127. $35-$45.

TOPSoccer Spring Camp
6 p.m.: Park Ridge Soccer hosts this community-based outreach program for young athletes with disabilities. Registration required. Visit prosoccer.com or email prosoccer@gmail.com. Woodland Park, 1200 N. Western Ave., Park Ridge. $25.

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Great America Overnight
9 a.m.: Join the Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation for an overnight trip to Six Flags Great America in Gurnee, Illinois. For ages 13 to 22. Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation, 6820 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-966-5522. $290-$590.

Park Ridge Garden Club Plant Sale
9 a.m.: Featured items include annuals, hanging baskets, perennials, herbs and vegetables. Perennials from Garden Club members’ gardens will be featured as well. These have proven to be hardy in the Park Ridge area and in local soil conditions. Hodges Park, 101 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge.

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

Club Wonder: Leotok Stories and Play
10:30 a.m.: Sensory activities, crafts and songs for children with special needs and an adult. Registration required. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-324-3149.

Skokie Festival of Cultures
11 a.m.: The two-day event celebrates different cultures through music, dance, food, crafts, artwork, displays, games, shopping and more. Oakton Park Community Center, 4701 W. Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-968-6777. $3-$10.

SEE CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE »
Rainbow Therapy Time
12:15 p.m.: Children with special needs are invited to meet and play with these specially trained dogs, who, along with their human trainers, can help the kids learn some social, attention and language skills. Parents should remain in the library while their children take part in the therapy independently. For those ages 7 to 12. Register at 847-825-3123. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge.

Arlington Park Race Track
7:30 a.m.: The Park Ridge Lions Club hosts a mobile Diabetic Retinopathy screening unit in the adjoining parking lot south of the library. Screenings are done by professional staff members from Illinois Retina Associates. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-925-3123.

Babysitting Basics Part I
3:45 p.m.: This two-day workshop is designed to help prepare students ages 12 and up to become better babysitters. The focus is on safety — for the sitter, the children being cared for, and their parents. Students who attend both days of the workshop will receive a certificate of completion. Registration is required. For more information or to register, go to calendar.mgpil.org or call 847-929-5101. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.
Glenview Soccer Club
To Hold Tryouts

Travel club soccer tryouts for boys and girls U8-U11 from Glenview and the surrounding communities

Glenview Soccer Club players U8-U11 enjoy the benefits of:

- Professional USSF licensed coaches;
- Focused soccer skill development in a competitive environment;
- The fun and camaraderie of being part of a team with other committed soccer players;
- Building confidence, determination and fitness as young athletes;
- Affordable player fees, with need-based scholarships available.

Register for tryouts TODAY!
Tryouts begin May 27. For more information – including age-specific dates, times and locations – visit www.GlenviewSoccerClub.com. All players must pre-register online.

(Editor's Note: Content appears as it is provided in public records. To see all Niles building permits, visit niles.suntimes.com.)

- Morgan Stanley has announced that Scott Magnessen, a Managing Director, Financial Advisor in the firm's Oak Brook office, has been named to Barron's annual list of America's Top 100 Financial Advisors.
- The Coldwell Banker Charitable Foundation presented the New Foundation Center and Rebuilding Together North Suburban Chicago charities each with a $5,500 grant during its 4th Annual Foundation Celebration. The event took place on April 24 at the Rosewood Restaurant in Rosemont.
- Guy Viti Insurance Agency in Highwood is proud to announce Anna Maria Viti-Welch was named as Woman Business Owner of the Year by the Chicago Area Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners. Additionally, Guy Viti Insurance Agency has been named one of Society's Best for 2013 by Society Insurance.
- Ed Whitehead, an American Family Insurance Agent in Lake Bluff, has been recognized for providing outstanding customer service under the American Star Excellence in Customer Experience Certification. Whitehead has been an agent for American Family since August of 1982. His office is located at 208 N. Waukegan Road, Suite C, in Lake Bluff.
- Lake Forest native and McDonald's restaurant owner/operator William McEssy was awarded the prestigious Fred L. Turner Golden Arch Award for outstanding restaurant management and service. The awards were given by McDonald's President and CEO Don Thompson at the McDonald's Worldwide Convention.

(Note: Does your company have news about grand openings, hires, promotions, awards or recognitions? Email biznotes@pioneerlocal.com.)
Owners of a new business in Uptown Park Ridge believe they have the right tips to leading a healthier life.

Mirko and Leigh Glavanovic, with partners Sanja and Jadranko Tomas, recently opened Slimmer Fit and Nutrition Club at 17 N. Prospect Ave., north of Touhy Avenue. The location includes a tea and shake bar — open to members and nonmembers alike — as well as a 2,500-square-foot fitness room. Diet supplements and protein drink mixes are also available for sale.

Slimmer Fit and Nutrition is billed as an educational program focused on nutrition and exercise. Dieters looking to lose weight and keep it off, athletes looking to pack on a few pounds and muscle, and anyone wanting to improve their overall health can have a personalized wellness plan created by the club's fitness and wellness coaches, the owners say.

"Our goal is to introduce food more often," Mirko Glavanovic explained. "Our typical program consists of five meals per day, and out of those five meals a day we recommend one or two meal replacements that help with nutrition."

A "meal replacement" might be one of the several high-protein shakes sold behind the counter.

Clients get one free consultation with a coach, participation in fitness camps (held twice a week), a grocery shopping trip to learn more about nutrition and their own personalized fitness and nutrition plan.

"We look and see what their goals are when they come in and speak to us," said Leigh Glavanovic. "We customize a plan based on that."

Tips on calorie and fat intake, as well as the types of food and drink to choose — and avoid—are among the suggestions shared. Some of the most common recommendations from the coaches include eating only lean meat and fish, drinking a lot of water, and reducing salt and fat intake.

The front drink area is also open to drop-in customers, regardless of whether they are working with a coach on a wellness plan.

"They can have a tea and a shake everyday if they like," Leigh Glavanovic said.

Mirko Glavanovic stresses that what Slimmer Fit and Nutrition offers is not "dieting."

"We teach people how to eat healthy and how to sustain their weight loss, weight gain, or whatever they are trying to accomplish. And we accomplish all this just by introducing healthy food habits," he said.

The Glavanovics, who are not certified nutritionists or personal trainers, were inspired to open their own business after they themselves were introduced to a wellness plan. Mirko Glavanovic, describing the person who developed the plan for him as a "mentor," said he lost 40 pounds and 12 percent of his body fat by changing his diet and finding the right exercise. His wife took on the challenge as well, losing 20 pounds and 9.5 percent of her body fat.

Before-and-after photos of the couple and other coaches at the club hang on the walls for clients to view. Current and future clients may also find their own photographs there.

"The goal is to fill the walls with success stories," Mirko Glavanovic said.

Slimmer Fit and Nutrition Club is open Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Those interested in a consultation can call 847-430-3306.
The Event: "One Shared Purpose" brought out 700 supporters on April 21 to the Hyatt Regency Chicago for the 23rd annual Facing History and Ourselves benefit. Founded in 1976 on the principle that an educator's most important responsibility is to shape a humane, well-educated citizenry that practices civility and preserves human rights, the Facing History curriculum promotes active learning by encouraging critical evaluation of modern events as viewed through an historical spectrum.

Cause célèbre: Wayne Grinstead, originally of Winnetka, was a classroom teacher in New York City who used Facing History methodology long before he joined as program associate. "Once students see that history is not inevitable, that these are choices people are making, it affects what they are doing in their own lives."

Cook County Board President, Toni Preckwinkle of Chicago began her professional life as a history teacher. "This is an organization that not only focuses on history but some of the tough challenges we face in looking at our past, so I am a strong supporter," said Preckwinkle.

Parents like Inge Hondmann of Winnetka, credit Facing History with giving children a greater appreciation of history and its influence. "The Holocaust was not just during the time of the Nazis, it has been repeating ever since through genocides all over the world," said Hondmann. Her hope is that by being exposed to this, her son Floris, a senior at North Shore Country Day School, can be part of the change that prevents such atrocities in the future.

And Facing History and Ourselves Chicago office director, Bonnie Oberman, noted: "We are training teachers all over the metropolitan area in work that allows kids to understand the importance of choice-making and that they have a voice and the power to make a difference in the world."

Bottom line: The benefit raised $1.5 million for Facing History and Ourselves programming.

1. Ilana Harrow, originally of Evanston (from left), Jennifer Merdinger of Evanston, regional development director, Amy Schuman of Skokie, volunteer and Nicholas Gauna originally of Evanston; 2. Bonnie Oberman of Chicago, director of the Chicago FHO office (left), and Toni Preckwinkle of Chicago, Cook County Board president; 3. William and Mary Ellen Fausone of Wilmette; 4. Ellen Carmell, originally of Glencoe, board member (left), and Myla Frohmann Goldstick of Glencoe; 5. Patty Cook of Winnetka (from left), Trish Tullman of Wilmette, board chairman, and Inge Hondmann of Winnetka. (PHOTOS BY LEE A. LITAS/FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA)
Sun Heroes shine at inaugural gala

BY KARIE ANGEL LUC
For Sun-Times Media

More than 360 people were designated as Sun Heroes on April 26 at the inaugural “Sun Hero Gala” for the Pediatric Sun Protection Foundation at Viper Alley in Lincolnshire.

Dr. Amy Brodsky of Deerfield, a dermatologist who practices in Glenview, welcomed the guests, among them, Clark the Chicago Cubs mascot and Janet Davies of WLS-Channel 7.

"I've had skin cancer," said Davies. "It was certainly caused by my time as a teenager in the sun," she added, referring to her time as a lifeguard.

"My national platform is saving our children," said Randi Moxi of Vernon Hills, Mrs. Illinois International for 2014. "Dr. Amy Brodsky's cause is very close to my heart.

PSPF, a foundation based in Northfield, was founded in 2012 by Brodsky. Her husband Joel A. Brodsky is executive director and treasurer.

"I started this Pediatric Sun Protection Foundation because I thought it was really important, as a dermatologist and as a mother, to drive home the point that most of the sun damage that we get happens while we're younger," Amy Brodsky said.

One PSPF goal is to create awareness in skin cancer prevention by promoting the use of sun protective clothing. Most of the $150,000 raised at the gala will go toward those shirts plus clinical research required to apply for a grant to grow the message.

"Amy Brodsky is the best doctor and the most caring person," said Laura Horwitch of Northbrook, who attended the gala with her husband David, a Chicago attorney.

"I'm thrilled to be a part of a cause that helps to educate people on the importance of sun protection in children," said Dr. Julie Goldberg of Deerfield, a Northbrook-based dermatologist. "Early education and prevention are the keys to reducing skin cancer in both children and adults."

Visit www.sunhero.org.

Steve and Jill Werner of Northbrook, KARIE ANGEL LUC FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA

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Matthew Schick insisted on going on a picnic with then-girlfriend Rebecca Brewer on his birthday in 2012.

Rebecca was a little confused because they were supposed to meet friends for a celebration. She had no idea something bigger was coming, even when Matthew was being unusually sentimental.

"He was saying all these nice things, and right before he was about to propose, all of a sudden there was this rat chasing a bunny," Rebecca said.

That prompted Rebecca to want to leave but not before Matthew started his spiel again, getting down on one knee to ask Rebecca to marry him. The proposal turned the birthday event into a little engagement celebration, Rebecca said.

Rebecca, originally from Michigan, and Matthew, from Ohio, went on to find the perfect location for their wedding. They looked at several different venues — in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois — before settling on the Kenilworth Club for their reception.

"We knew we wanted to marry in the fall, and I kind of wanted a place that embodied fall elements," Rebecca said.

After their ceremony at St. Michael's Church in the Old Town neighborhood of Chicago, guests moved to the Kenilworth Club, filled with eggplant purple decor and warm fall accent colors of red and orange.

Centerpieces included lanterns surrounded by candles and flowers. Rebecca's dad made table numbers using wood from trees in Northern Michigan.

Rebecca traveled back to Michigan to custom design the necklace she wore with her lace Allure Couture wedding gown. The necklace had three strands of pearls surrounding a blue gem styled to look like a sapphire, her birthstone. The strands are removable, allowing Rebecca to wear the necklace as a bracelet.

Priorities for the wedding day included location, good food and a good DJ. The couple nailed down those details first.

The couple's first dance song was "Thank You Too" by My Morning Jacket — Matthew's favorite band. Once, Rebecca recalled, they were playing Uno and when Matthew lost, he had to sing Rebecca a song. "Thank You Too" was the song he chose to serenade her.

The couple honeymooned to Mexico after the Oct. 12 wedding. They met about four years ago when work brought both to Chicago. Matthew works in an accounting role at an insurance company, and Rebecca works for a private equity firm. They live in the Lakeview area of Chicago.

Contact Renee Lee at rlee@bouquetcatcher.com or 312-651-6613 to share your wedding story. Facebook.com/BouquetCatcher Twitter @BouquetCatcher Pinterest.com/BouquetCatcher
Three decades have passed since Toyota's Camry first rolled into the market, where it made an impact on consumers as a practical mid-size sedan, and became a benchmark vehicle for other manufacturers. Camry has maintained its popularity and image of dependability over the years, evolving to add stylishness to its list of pluses.

The current-generation model debuted for the 2012 model year with more balanced performance and a sleeker, refreshed body, poised with a wider and lower stance. A test drive in a 2014 XLE model sends a message that Camry remains a top contender in the highly competitive segment. With a $24,855 starting price, the premium XLE model is the popular choice for buyers wanting a blend of luxury and fuel economy.

A pair of engines that provide at least 30 miles per gallon highway fuel economy are offered on the XLE model. The 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine delivers 178 horsepower at 6,000 revolutions per minute and 170 pound-feet of torque at 4,100 rpm. Estimated fuel economy is 25 miles per gallon city and 35 mpg highway.

Upgrading to V6 muscle bumps the price tag to $30,465. The 3.5-liter V6 produces 268 horsepower at 6,200 rpm and 248 pound-feet of torque at 4,700 rpm. Paired with a standard six-speed automatic transmission, estimated fuel economy is 21 mpg city and 30 mpg highway.

Both engines are mated to a six-speed automatic transmission that features a sequential manual shift mode via the console shifter, and both engines drink from a 17-gallon fuel tank and run on 87-octane unleaded gasoline.

Along with respectable power and fuel economy, the Camry boasts ride and handling qualities surpassing previous-generation models. A more rigid body structure teams with a well-tuned suspension to deliver a stable feel, improved steering response, and excellent ride quality. Camrys are equipped with electric power steering, which provides light effort at low speeds and moderate effort at higher speeds.

Camry XLE models roll on standard five-spoke, 17-inch alloy wheels wrapped by P225/60R17 tires. The top-line Camry benefits from extra chrome touches, with chrome garnish on the trunk, exhaust tips, and integrated fog-light trim. Heated outside mirrors and a power tilt/slide moonroof also are standard XLE exterior features.

Inside the five-passenger cabin, occupants enjoy comfortable accommodations with driver and passenger benefiting from new-generation seats with taller seatbacks and longer cushions. The driver seat boasts eight-way power adjustability and the passenger seat offers four-way power adjustability. Seats on XLE V6 models are clad in leather, while XLE four-cylinder models offer standard fabric upholstery.
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### Cars

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Lease Term</th>
<th>Interest Rate</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Sonic</td>
<td>$12,899</td>
<td>$159/Month</td>
<td>0% for 72 mos</td>
<td>0% Down</td>
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<td>Cruze</td>
<td>$14,299</td>
<td>$129/Month</td>
<td>0% for 72 mos</td>
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<td>Malibu</td>
<td>$18,299</td>
<td>$179/Month</td>
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<td>Equinox</td>
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<td>Impala</td>
<td>$23,899</td>
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<td>ATS</td>
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<tr>
<td>SRX</td>
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<td>XTS</td>
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<td>0% for 72 mos</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Make/Model</th>
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<tr>
<td>2012 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT 4X4</td>
<td>PRS1 995</td>
<td>$4,980*</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011 Lincoln MKZ</td>
<td>PRS2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014 Nissan Altima Sedan</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010 Nissan Murano SL AWD</td>
<td>J263441F</td>
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<td>2012 Ford Escape XLI</td>
<td>PRS1 996</td>
<td>$18,890</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013 Ford Fusion SE</td>
<td>JR1992</td>
<td>$19,680</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011 Dodge Nitro Detonator 4X4</td>
<td>PRS2014</td>
<td>$20,980</td>
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**Pre-Owned Vehicles**

**FRI, SAT & MON ONLY!**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Make/Model</th>
<th>Stock #</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>2009 CHRYSLER TOWN &amp; COUNTRY TOURING</td>
<td>PRS1 995</td>
<td>$9,850*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 CHRYLIER 200 LX</td>
<td>PRS2000</td>
<td>$11,980*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 HYUNDAI SONATA</td>
<td>PRS2000</td>
<td>$13,480*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006 Honda Pilot EX-L 4X4</td>
<td>J246605A</td>
<td>$8,890*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 Nissan Maxima 3.5</td>
<td>J263441A</td>
<td>$10,980*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007 Mazda CX-7 TOURING</td>
<td>PRS1999</td>
<td>$11,280*</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009 Dodge Journey SXT V6</td>
<td>PRS1996</td>
<td>$12,980*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 Jeep Liberty Sport 4X4</td>
<td>PRS1998</td>
<td>$14,980*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 GMC Acadia</td>
<td>J263441A</td>
<td>$15,980*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 Ram 1500</td>
<td>J249720A</td>
<td>$16,980*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 Chrysler 300 Limited</td>
<td>J249720A</td>
<td>$19,580*</td>
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**3 DAYS ONLY!**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011 Chrysler Town &amp; Country Touring</td>
<td>PRS2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012 Chrysler 200 LX</td>
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*Prices are good 3 days from publication date. Prices are good 3 days from publication date. *Used prices plus tax, title, license & doc fee.

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Life at the top
Downtown developer leases penthouse at Optima Chicago Center in Streeterville

Mark Sutherland, a downtown developer, sold his home in Wicker Park, and his family needed a place to live for about a year until his new home could be completed. They chose to lease a penthouse at Optima Chicago Center in Streeterville.

“We wanted to live in a modern building, and we were attracted to Optima Chicago Center's sleek lines and contemporary aesthetics,” Sutherland said.

Located at 200 E. Illinois Avenue, on the northeast corner of Illinois and St. Clair streets, Optima Chicago Center was designed by architect David Hovey and constructed by Optima, Inc., his development company. The 42-story building project is a joint venture between Optima Inc. and DeBartolo Development and is the first phase of a dual-tower complex.

The building includes 325 luxury rental residences, 235 parking spaces, and over 20,000 square feet of commercial retail and office space. Convertible, one-two- and three-bedroom and penthouse floor plans are available, and the building is pet-friendly.

Sutherland, his wife, Elena, and daughters Ella, 5½, and Maya, 4, moved into a three-bedroom penthouse with just over 2,800 square feet of space. The penthouse includes a living room and formal dining room as well as a deluxe kitchen with large island/breakfast bar and plentiful cabinets, a great room and an office area. Each bedroom has a private bath, and a powder room serves guests.

The Sutherlands are enjoying the convenience of the Streeterville neighborhood, with its proximity to Lake Michigan, Navy Pier, movies at the River East Theater, restaurants and shopping.

“The location is excellent, and the staff at Optima Chicago Center has been very professional and a pleasure to work with,” Sutherland said.

Optima Chicago Center overlooks a landscaped island and a linear park. The landscaped entrance opens to a soaring elongated 20-foot lobby space with a variety of services, including a 24-hour doorman, 24-7 monitored access, intercom and video surveillance.

Recreational amenities include the Residents’ Club on the 32nd floor, which features a lounge with dining tables, designer pool table and table tennis, a service bar where morning coffee and tea service is offered and both east and west-facing terraces with seating and grills.

The 10th floor features a fitness center with basketball shooting area, flexible studio, men's and women's locker rooms and steam rooms. An indoor 15-meter swimming pool and hydrotherapy spa create an indoor-outdoor aquatic experience.

The 42nd floor of the building features the green roof sky garden, with a landscaped path leading to a sun deck with lounge chairs, a hydrotherapy pool, fire pits and grilling stations, all accented by scenic views.

Several models are available for viewing. They include a convertible unit, with prices from the $2,000s monthly; a one-bedroom plan, priced from the $2,600s monthly; two-bedroom plans from the $3,300s monthly; and three-bedroom plans from $4,744 to $5,474 monthly. In addition, three-bedroom penthouses are priced at $10,145 and $10,311 monthly.

Leasing is underway. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call (312) 527-0800 or visit www.optimaweb.com.
Poll checks on market confidence

Consumers generally are showing greater optimism in the housing market this spring, according to Fannie Mae's 2014 National Housing Survey.

In the recent poll of 1,000 people, 38 percent say it's a good time to sell a home, up from 26 percent a year ago. The poll also shows that 69 percent of those surveyed say it's a good time to buy, and 52 percent say it's easier today to get financing for a home.

Americans also feel more confident about their personal finances: An all-time survey high of 40 percent say their personal financial situation has improved during the past year, it was reported by the National Association of Realtors.

"The housing recovery continues to proceed in fits and starts," says Doug Duncan, Fannie Mae's chief economist. "Rising mortgage rates and a lack of supply have dampened housing market momentum.

"However, we see several positive signs in this year's homebuying season, compared with last year. For example, consumers are less pessimistic about their personal finances and more optimistic about the current selling environment and their ability to get a mortgage.

"Still, those who are pessimistic about buying or selling a home today tend to point to economic conditions as the primary issue, and most consumers continue to say the economy is on the wrong track. Looking forward, we expect to see a pickup in economic growth later in the year, and this may boost the confidence of prospective buyers and sellers."

However, consumers' home-price expectations softened a bit in the latest survey. The average 12-month home-price-change expectation fell from last month, reaching 2.7 percent, the survey shows. Also, slightly fewer respondents — 48 percent — said they thought home prices would rise in the next 12 months.

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121 2014 Honda ACCORD LX Automatic, Stk#H31964 LEASE FOR $179 for 36 mo $999 due at lease signing, plus 1st mo. payment, tax, title, lc. and doc fee.

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2014 Health Care Hiring: Meeting Consumer Expectations

By Joanne Cleaver

What's in store for health care hiring in 2014? Health care recruiters and hiring managers are about to be challenged with finding a new vein of talent that pivots around the healthcare consumer experience.

One big driver of the trend is the Affordable Care Act (ACA, otherwise known as Obamacare,) which is opening new roles in health care hiring. "Health care is changing so fast they don't even know how it's changing," says Jim Kauffman, product manager for executive solutions and a health care practice expert for consulting firm DDI.

Read on to learn more about the new health care roles that will emerge in 2014 and what they mean for health care recruiting.

Retail Skills Transfer to Healthcare

A year ago, Mike Zipser was a regional executive with Dick's Sporting Goods, making sure that its Chicago-area stores stocked enough balls, bats, mitts and bikes to keep sports enthusiasts playing.

He's still in the business of keeping customers active and on their feet -- but now Zipser is a healthcare manager.

As a regional manager with Concentra, a division of Humana that runs more than 300 urgent care centers and employer-based wellness centers around the country, Zipser has made a high-level lateral move into health care.

At first glance, his career move seems like a leap. But walk-in health care has more in common with retail skills than one might think, says Zipser, such as the need for staff to immediately engage with customers and the need for a culture that can convert a low moment in a customer's day into a high point of customer service.

Alan Ayers, vice president of strategy for Concentra, says that the required skills for a multi-site clinical manager is more aligned with experience gained in the retail, hospitality and even restaurant industries, then applied to health care.

"We represent a creative viewpoint about the medical experience," says Zipser.

The ability to manage and lead change is becoming a primary skill for health care managers. Employers are not just looking for middle managers who can replicate prior success, but for employees who can prove that they are adaptable and flexible.

An Urgent Need for APRNs

Within health care systems, a new breed of nurse is keeping track of all these changes: Clinical Nurse Leaders (CNL).

The CNL certification process is still evolving. To date, only 3,000 clinical nurse leaders have been certified, reports Joan Stanley, senior director of education policy for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Yet health care providers can't hire them fast enough, says Stanley, because clinical nurse leaders bridge daily nursing practice with system-wide initiatives such as quality improvement, patient safety, and transitions to home and self-care -- all priorities of the ACA.

"They are the pivot point for outcomes," says Stanley. The position's salary range is $60,000 to $90,000.

A Demand for Healthcare Data Analysts

Inevitably, in 2014 clinical nurse leaders will coordinate with health care information managers as patient information privacy and security comes into sharp focus, says Lou Ann Wiedemann, senior director for health information management practice excellence for the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA).

"When paper records existed, you'd never lose 500,000 records at once," says Wiedemann.

"But now that everything is in a database, each of those 500,000 records is at risk."

This still emerging health care data analyst position will integrate records privacy and security -- in other words, the policy of privacy and the technical accomplishment of security.

In 2014, health care data analysts will control the flow of information, not just internally, but also to doctors' practices and pharmacies. And, thanks to the ACA, they will also impact healthcare navigators and others who are attempting to coach consumers through the process of accessing ACA benefits.

The latest crop of analyst candidates in AHIMA's certification classes included bankers, lawyers, statisticians, and nurses.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the overall amount of recordkeeping demanded by the ACA is responsible for a projected 21% growth in medical records and health information technical jobs.

Just as in their consumer health care experience, consumers will fully expect that health care practitioners will be up to speed on accessing, protecting, and coordinating their data, says Wiedemann.

And the demand for health care data isn't just from younger consumers. A 2013 survey conducted by consulting giant Accenture found that over 75% of Medicare clients -- those who would be senior citizens, by definition -- are online at least daily to use email, social media and to search for information.

About 67% of these Medicare clients reported that they'd like online access to their health care records, too -- an expectation uncomfortable even five years ago.

Meeting Health Care Expectations in 2014

If there is one lesson from the problematic rollout Healthcare.gov, it's that consumers (and President Obama) expect health care technology and their health care experience to mirror their everyday consumer experiences, both online and on-site.

Therein lies one of the biggest health care trends likely to accelerate in 2014: reorienting health care services from what institutions want to do to what consumers want to experience.
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Sun-Times Media is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
NOTICE OF SALE

In the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois

CASE NO. 12 CH 040058

Defendants

MACIEJ CYDZIK A/lOA MACIEJ M.
MACIEJ CYDZIK,
MACIEJ CYDZIK

BANK (USA) N.A. F/K/A CAPITAL
MACIEJ CYDZIK A/lOA MACIEJ M.
MACIEJ CYDZIK

against

Cook County, Illinois

1101 N. WACKER DRIVE

The residential real estate arose prior to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale pursuant to the foreclosure of a real estate mortgage, which is subject to general real estate taxes levied against said real estate, pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on March 15, 2014, an agent of the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate, and is subject to general real estate taxes levied against said real estate, as determined by the board of assessors of the City of Chicago, Illinois, the sale will be held at 10:30 AM on May 27, 2014, in the lobby of the Cook County Court Center, 0101 S. WACKER DRIVE, Chicago, Illinois, 60606. The sale will be advertised for 20 days prior to the date of sale in the Daily Southtown, the Sun-Times, and the Chicago Daily Record. The sale will be conducted by public auction to the highest bidder, with the successful bidder being the purchaser of the real estate. The sale is subject to confirmation by the court, and any person having an interest in the real estate will be given 30 days after entry of an order confirming the sale to redeem the real estate. The sale is subject to the provisions of the Illinois Residential Real Estate Foreclosure Act, 765 ILCS 605/1 et seq., and the Illinois Residential Condominium Act, 765 ILCS 605/1 et seq.

The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The bid amount was $33,145 and is subject to general real estate taxes levied against said real estate. The bid amount must be in certified funds and/or certified checks for an amount not to exceed $300, in certified funds, or any amount paid by the mortgagee to the residential real estate for the residential real estate, pursuant to Illinois Residential Real Estate Foreclosure Act, 765 ILCS 605/1 et seq., and the Illinois Residential Condominium Act, 765 ILCS 605/1 et seq. The property will be sold as a whole, and no part of the property will be sold separately. The sale is for the residential real estate and the adjoining improvements, and no personal property is included. The purchaser will receive a deed to the real estate after the successful bidding, with the deed being recorded by the title company. The sale is subject to the terms and conditions of sale set forth herein. The successful bidder will be required to pay a deposit of 25% of the bid amount in certified funds at the time of the sale. The remaining balance will be due within 30 days of the sale. The purchaser will be required to pay all real estate taxes and assessments due on the property for the year in which the sale is made.

The real estate is located at 1001 N. WACKER DRIVE, Chicago, Illinois, 60606. The sale will be conducted by public auction to the highest bidder, with the successful bidder being the purchaser of the real estate. The sale is subject to the provisions of the Illinois Residential Real Estate Foreclosure Act, 765 ILCS 605/1 et seq., and the Illinois Residential Condominium Act, 765 ILCS 605/1 et seq. The property will be sold as a whole, and no part of the property will be sold separately. The sale is for the residential real estate and the adjoining improvements, and no personal property is included. The purchaser will receive a deed to the real estate after the successful bidding, with the deed being recorded by the title company. The sale is subject to the terms and conditions of sale set forth herein. The successful bidder will be required to pay a deposit of 25% of the bid amount in certified funds at the time of the sale. The remaining balance will be due within 30 days of the sale. The purchaser will be required to pay all real estate taxes and assessments due on the property for the year in which the sale is made.

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NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NO. 13 CH 19311
No. of Creditors: 84
No. of Creditor Claims: 84

A DEBTOR has filed a petition for relief under Chapter 7 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Peoria Division.

No. 13 CH 19311

DEBTOR: RODRIGUEZ, MARVIN

CREDITOR: CHASE HOME FINANCE CORPORATION

Amount of Claim: $1,228,962.36

The petition was filed on 05/15/2014. The到期 hearing is set for 06/05/2014 at 10:00 AM.

The Creditor is claiming that the debtor owes $1,228,962.36 in the form of a mortgage on a residential property located at 300 W. Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606.

The Creditor has the right to object to the discharge of the debt. The debtor has the right to a hearing.

If you have any questions, please contact the United States Trustee at (312) 753-3373.

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condition. The sale is further sub-

fect to confirmation by the court.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pur-

Your assessment and your legal fees are re-

of | 12 CH 00754 |

No. 140409-001

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and without | 12 CH 00754 |

is in | 12 CH 00754 |

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s, special assessements, or special 

24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606,

2014, at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please visit our website at www.ttsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION AT 120 WEST MADISON STREET, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please visit our website at www.ttsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

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ASSUMED NAME

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to an Assumed Business Name act, that a certification was registered by the Circuit Clerk of Cook County, Registration Number D1411060 on December 29, 2014, under the Assumed Name of:

**Klein, Frances**

**ASSUMED NAME**

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to an Assumed Business Name act, that a certification was registered by the Circuit Clerk of Cook County, Registration Number D1411060 on December 29, 2014, under the Assumed Name of:

**Klein, Frances**
Superintendent of Financial Affairs

TOWN FUND

I, Thomas Lupo, Supervisor of Norwood Park Township, Cook County, Illinois, being duly sworn, depose and say that the following statement is a correct report for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2013, and ending March 31, 2014.

BEGINNING BALANCE, APRIL 1, 2013 $1,128,632.71

REVENUES

Property Tax $474,267.23
Replacement Tax 23,422.19
Interest Income 345.34
Miscellaneous Income 3,488.06

TOTAL REVENUES 498,134.76

EXPENDITURES

Administration 360,433.44
Assessor 13,193.00
Audit 44,580.00
Intangible 95.00
E. Municipal Retirement 300.00
Social Security 1,000.00
Special Programs 54,264.86
Safety Program 500.00
Collector 250.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES 327,891.32

ENDING BALANCE, MARCH 31, 2014 $1,168,767.15

The amount of tax levied during the year $480,884.18
The amount of tax collected $474,367.23
The amount of refunds & reimbursements $(150.00)

1. The Supervisor shall, within 30 days before the annual town meeting, prepare and file this report with the Township Clerk.
2. Subscribed and sworn to this 4th day of April, 2014

(Signed) THOMAS LUPO

SUPERVISOR

Pioneer Press (DC)

Thursday, May 15, 2014

Your #1 Source for high school sports

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Scores | Game Stories | Video Highlights | Photos

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Your #1 Source for high school sports

High School Cube News is Sun-Times Media's high school sports website. 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.

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.

DRIVE

Gaining traction

high school CUBE news
From Glinda the Good to the upcoming Goodman gala, KRISTIN CHENOIWETH has audiences under her spell.
TAKING LOCAL TO THE NEXT LEVEL

SEARED LAKE SUPERIOR WHITEFISH
WILD CAUGHT
Lake Whitefish
HOME GROWN
Heirloom Cherry Tomatoes

GEM LETTUCE SPRING SALAD
SEASONAL
Spring Baby Carrots & Pea Shoots
GREENS
From Werp Farms in Michigan

PARAMOUNT EVENTS
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773.880.8044 – info@ParamountEventsChicago.com
Sisters Sarah Kennedy and Anne Kennedy Dotson showcase their locally made, travel-inspired pieces at Dose Market May 18. Specializing in basic items made with luxe fabrics, the siblings primarily sell online — making this a rare chance to shop hands-on. Items start at $88. Dose Market at Chop Shop, 2033 W. North, Buckleyk.com

Target Premium Skincare assortment
Hit the beauty bullseye at the supermarket, which launched an exclusive collection of products last month. Stock up on everything from lip balms to skin cleansers to wrinkle fillers from seven brands, including 29 by Lydia Mondavi, Laneige and La Roche-Posay. Products start at $10. Target locations citywide. Target.com

Bistro dress, $128
BOSS Bottled Unlimited
The newest men's scent from the fashion mega-house combines springy mint, fresh pineapple and earthy wood extracts into an invigorating blend — perfect for a summer day. $75, 520 N. Michigan, Hugoboss.com

< 29 by Lydia Mondavi's First Crush lip scrub, $10
Lobster roll
Sophie's brunch
Shopping and brunching — two of our favorite Sunday activities — have finally come together thanks to the new morning menu from Saks Fifth Avenue's eatery. Fuel up on dishes like the crab cake Benedict ($19) — paired with the rhubarb-grapefruit mimosa ($10) — before heading downstairs to browse the racks. 700 N. Michigan, Sophies.com

Need to Know
WHAT IS THE BEST ADVICE YOUR MOM EVER GAVE YOU?
May 12

**FEAR NO ART PRESENTS THE DINNER PARTY**

At the last installment before summer break, Fear No Art founder and moderator Elysabeth Altano gathers Wilco’s Glenn Kotche, chef Peter Coenen of The Gage, Kathy Hart from 101.9’s Eric & Kathy Show and actor Marc Grapey together for a delicious dinner and lively conversation. Audience members will also dig into chef Coenen’s fare, followed by Vosges chocolates.

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.
**Place:** City Winery, 1200 W. Randolph
**Cost:** $45. For tickets, visit Fearnoartchicago.com/about-dinner-party. To watch online, visit Chicagosplash.com/dinnerparty.

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May 15

**VERTIGO SKY LOUNGE EVENT**

After the winter that wouldn’t end, the al fresco dining/drinking season deserves an extra enthusiastic welcome. Join Splash as we kick off the opening of the 26th story Vertigo Sky Lounge with summery cocktails and unbeatable views.

**Time:** 8 p.m.
**Place:** Vertigo Sky Lounge in the Dana Hotel, 2 W. Erie
**Cost:** Free

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**HORIZON HOSPICE CIRCLE OF CARE BENEFIT**

Enjoy cocktails, dinner, live and silent auctions and jazz music from the Elmhurst College Jazz Band at Horizon Hospice and Palliative Care’s annual event, benefiting the organization’s children’s programs.

**Dr. Larry Goodman and Susan and Steve Lipe are this year’s honorees.**

**Time:** 6 p.m.
**Place:** The Casino, 195 E. Delaware
**Cost:** $300. For tickets, visit Horizonhospice.org.

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May 19

**HUBBARD STREET DANCE SPOTLIGHT BALL**

Mikhail Baryshnikov — Tony Award-winner, National Medal of Honor recipient and “Sex and the City” leading man — accepts this year’s Spotlight Award. Partygoers can bid on luxe auction items, including an all-inclusive trip to Quebec and two tickets to the Primetime Emmy Awards. Proceeds benefit the company’s performances and community and artistic programming.

**Time:** 6 p.m.

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**CURE CHICAGO BENEFIT**

Grammy Award-winning musician James Taylor headlines this 16th annual event, chaired by Debra A. Cafaro, chairman and CEO of Ventas, Inc., and benefiting CURE (Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy) and its mission to raise awareness for and help cure epilepsy.

**Time:** 6 p.m.
**Place:** Navy Pier Grand Ballroom, 600 E. Grand
**Cost:** $350. For tickets, visit Cureepilepsy.org/chicago2014

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May 17

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Mikhail Baryshnikov — Tony Award-winner, National Medal of Honor recipient and “Sex and the City” leading man — accepts this year’s Spotlight Award. Partygoers can bid on luxe auction items, including an all-inclusive trip to Quebec and two tickets to the Primetime Emmy Awards. Proceeds benefit the company’s performances and community and artistic programming.

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**Time:** 6 p.m.
May 19
● SERVICE CLUB OF CHICAGO HATTITUDE
From fascinators to floppy hats, give your ensemble a dose of "hattitude" for this annual luncheon, co-chaired by Ann Gerber, Lezley Hodes, Karen Peters and Mamie Walton. Proceeds benefit the Service Club's range of charitable, civic and educational nonprofits, which the organization has been supporting since 1890.
Time: 11 a.m.
Place: Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, 120 E Delaware
Cost: $150. For tickets, visit Serviceclubofchicago.org.

May 20
● CHINESE AMERICAN SERVICE LEAGUE BENEFIT DINNER
Anne Pramaggiore, president and CEO of ComEd, and Frederick Waddell, chairman and CEO of Northern Trust, co-chair CASL's 35th anniversary event, co-hosted by ABC-7's Judy Hsu, Linda Yu and Eric Horng, FOX-32's Joanie Lum, WGN's Nancy Loo and NBC-5's Nesita Kwan. An all-star chef lineup — including Acadia's Ryan McCaskey and NAHA's Carrie Nahabedian — serves gourmet cuisine and proceeds help CASL assist the city's Asian population through language assistance, job programs and more.
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan
Cost: $350. For tickets, visit Caslservice.org/events/upcoming-events.

May 21
● MISERICORDIA ARTIST IN ALL
Sip on cocktails, snack on hors d'oeuvres and bid on artwork created by Misericordia's talented resident artists in a silent auction at this signature event. Proceeds help Misericordia provide care and services to adults and children with developmental disabilities.
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Modern Wing of the Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan
Cost: $160. For tickets, visit Misericordia.com/events.

Katrena Grant, Leslie Hodes and Belvon Walker donned hats at the Service Club luncheon last year.
BC News' Chief Environmental Affairs Correspondent Anne Thompson toasted to nature and science with more than 600 supporters at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum's (2430 N. Cannon) 16th annual Butterfly Ball May 2. Guests joined Thompson, who served as the mistress of ceremonies, and co-chairs Matthew and Lisa Harrington, Rock and Manisha Khanna and Lisa Pollina for a beef tenderloin dinner and decadent dessert and later danced to live music by Maggie Speaks. More than $1.5 million was raised for the museum's science-education initiatives.

Splash was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum up to a total of $25,000. Up to $1,000 can be matched per individual donation.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel took the stage to praise local lifesavers at the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago's annual Heroes Breakfast April 30. Guests turned out to the Fairmont Chicago (200 N. Columbus) to celebrate Chicago's finest for their acts of heroism, including pulling survivors from a highway car crash and donating blood to patients with rare blood types. Other heroes also received nods for their community effort: A total of 17 officers from the Chicago Police Department's 5th District were honored with the Law Enforcement Award and Ward 11 Alderman James Balcer received the Military Award.

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

STORIES BY JACQUELINE ANDRIAKOS
It's heating up out there, and we don't mean the weather — just take a look at the fiery fashion of Chicago's partygoers. Bold scarlet dresses are dominating the scene in lightweight and breathable fabrics that make them ideal for spring and summer days. The trend was in full force at the recent Met Gala, where Anne Hathaway and model Arizona Muse set the red carpet aflame sporting Calvin Klein and Ralph & Russo, respectively. Put your own spin on the simmering look by donning Escada's vibrant ruby dresses or Fendi's crimson column gowns. Just remember: Where there's fire, there's smokin' hot style.
STEPPENWOLF GALA

STANDING OVATION

Steppenwolf Theatre Company's ensemble stole the stage May 3 at the group's annual gala, giving 600 guests a first look at scenes from "The Way West," directed by ensemble member Amy Morton. Following the show, co-chairs Christine Albright, Lawrence Gill and Kathleen and Terry Jenkins invited galagors to the Downstage Theatre (1650 N. Halsted) for an evening of dinner and cocktails. Ensemble members Joan Allen and Tina Landau gave a toast before a live auction and later, Steppenwolf co-founder Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band performed. The event raised $1.2 million for the company's artistic and educational programming. — Jacqueline Andriakos

Splash was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to Steppenwolf Theatre up to a total of $30,000. Up to $1,000 can be matched per individual donation.

PHOTOS BY KYLE FLUBACKER AND MARK CAMPBELL

PONY UP

California Chrome may have earned the victory, but it was the more than 300 guests at the Vineyard Vines Kentucky Derby Party at Del Frisco's (58 E Oak) May 3 who really won big. Though the partygoers — decked out in their best floppy hats, seersucker and floral patterns — used fake money to bet on the ponies, they walked away with real prizes, including $500 to Vineyard Vines and koozies, hats and sunglasses all bearing the brand's signature whale. Hosts Amelia Canham Eaton, Heidy Best, Mark Beier and Splash's own Zak Sterner and Ramzi Dreessen joined the packed house in sipping Woodford Reserve mint juleps and glasses of 14 Hands wine while snacking on Philly cheesesteak egg rolls and tenderloin sliders.

PHOTOS BY SEBASTIAN BIEDRON

DRESSED TO WIN

Partygoers donned their Derby best — though, admittedly, the floppy hats made air kisses a challenge.
The National Museum of Mexican Art's May 2 Gala de Arte — themed “Sueños y Esperanzas” (“Dreams and Hopes”) — was a dream come true, shattering fundraising records and bolstering the museum's exhibitions and educational programs. Co-chairs Jessica Priego and Yolanda Sterner welcomed more than 700 black-tie-clad guests to the Fairmont Chicago (200 N. Columbus), where they listened to Grammy-nominated mariachi band Ella, sipped on Wansa tequila and mingled with notables like Mayor Rahm Emanuel, actor Billy Zane and Yvette Yates, host of “Primetime: What Would You Do?” John Quiñones and former White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen. A live and silent auction helped the big-ticket night raise more than $600,000 to support the museum's immersive collections of Mexican, Latino and Chicano art. — Zak Sterner

Splash was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to the National Museum of Mexican Art up to a total of $5,000. Up to $1,000 can be matched per individual donation.

PHOTOS BY MAGALI RANGEL

CHICAGO CHILDREN'S THEATRE'S LUNCHEON

Chicago moms and dads took a crash course in parenting alongside actress Butch Jerinie during the Chicago Children's Theatre's annual Lunch and Learn benefit April 30. The 200 attendees joined co-chairs Jacqueline Amacher and Rita Mirman at Bin 36 (339 N. Dearborn) for an afternoon of lunch, laughs and a panel discussion, in which author/cartoonist Pat Byrnes, “Chicago Fire” art director Stephanie Gilliam, fitness guru Jim Karas and style expert Amy Tara Koch talked about maintaining sanity, health and identity while raising the next generation of leaders. — Jacqueline Andriakos

Splash was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to the Chicago Children's Theatre up to a total of $5,000. Up to $1,000 can be matched per individual donation.

PHOTOS BY RAMZI DREESSEN AND TIMMY SAMUEL
WANT TO WIN A MAKEOVER?
Spruce up your workplace wardrobe this spring with Splash's help. Now through June 1, submit a photo and 250 words or less to Splash@suntimes.com, explaining why you deserve to win a prize package that includes a $500 Macy's shopping spree with Macy's by-appointment personal shoppers, a new hairstyle from Art + Science Salon and a makeover by Amazing Cosmetics. We'll top off the pampering with a photo shoot at Splash, which will be featured on the pages of our June 26 Workplace issue.

Find a feast for the senses at Fulton Market Kitchen

Walking into Fulton Market Kitchen, it's not entirely clear if you're supposed to order drinks or wait for a docent to begin a high-minded discussion of modern art. The new spot takes West Loop nightlife in a totally fresh direction, blending imaginative cuisine with an abundance of eclectic artwork. "[We're trying] to merge the craziness, decadence, extravagance and wit of the New York art scene in the 1980s into the context of a restaurant and lounge," explains owner Daniel Alonso.

Chef de cuisine Kyle Petersen's menu — which is pasted inside of old art journals and divided into themed sections like "small canvas" and "large canvas" — reflects that inventive vision. "I hate the words 'spin' or 'update,' but I want to cook food that I like and that's creative," says Petersen. He points to his grilled octopus as an example.

"I'm certainly not the first person to do grilled octopus," he laughs. But Petersen's version is paired with candied lemon, cherry tomatoes and Greek vinaigrette for a sweet and sour combination that will intrigue even the most jaded palate ($13). Here's what else to expect at Fulton Market Kitchen:

Chef stats: Chef Petersen started out in high school as a busboy. After he attended culinary school at Kendall College, he did stints at some of Chicago's best restaurants: Keefer's, Naha and most recently, Ceres'table.

Art house: Fulton Market Kitchen's interior, designed by Alonso, is a feast for the eyes. Giant pop- and graffiti-art canvases dominate the walls, while hanging wooden boats give the extra-high ceiling a sense of depth and space. A custom mural by artist Erni Vales contains everything from superheroes on motorcycles to little girls parachuting from a flaming red sky. If you're an art aficionado, ask for more information — the restaurant has a pamphlet designed to take you on a guided tour.

Must-try dish: A favorite of Petersen's is the Two Tails, a combination of lobster and pigtail inspired by the classic surf and turf ($21). It's topped with a Burgundy lobster sauce, which sets it apart from the typical drawn-butter-drenched fish-house dish. And don't miss the crispy bay scallops and sweetbreads, designed to be the perfect replacement for staid fried calamari ($13). "The goal behind it was to bite into something and not be able to tell if it's a scallop or a sweetbread until you put it in your mouth," says Petersen.

Shot and a beer: In addition to culinary-inspired cocktails filled with savory ingredients like red pepper, tarragon, basil and cilantro, Beverage Director Brian Sturgulewski has reimaged a classic dive bar treat: the Boilermaker. "To me, a Boilermaker is a classic cocktail," says Sturgulewski. "We're just trying to elevate it." Each beer is accompanied by a shot of a unique spirit — try the Shriners Lodge, a combo of Jeppson's Malort and Stiegl Grapefruit Radler ($8). If you're not in the mood for a pint, try the Never Trust a Spaniard, a cocktail made with mezcal, sherry, red pepper and barbecue bitters that evokes all the flavors of Spanish food in a single sip ($12).

311 N. Sangamon, (312) 733-6900; fultonmarketkitchen.com
Chicago hip-hop artist Twista puts a new spin on rap with a sign language video and his ninth album

BY ZAK STEMER

Considering he earned the Guinness World Record for "World's Fastest Rapper" in 1992, Twista (née Carl Mitchell) speaks at a surprisingly normal pace. Actually, the Chicago-born artist — who's released eight albums and collaborated with the likes of Kanye West and Mariah Carey over the course of his two-decade career — has recently taken to a whole new style of rapping that doesn't involve words at all. Last month, Twista partnered with Cue Everything, a local organization dedicated to developing and promoting cued speech, a phonetic form of sign language that allows the hearing impaired to better understand sounds and rhymes. "I'm always rooting for the underdog," says Twista of the partnership. "If someone has special needs, I'm always willing to help that person get to experience something that they normally wouldn't. I'm inspired by that, deeply."

In the spirit of spreading his sound to a previously unacquainted audience, Twista and Cue Everything worked together to translate the rapper's new song, "Get It," into cued speech. The organization even released a music video on their website (Cueeverything.com) incorporating footage of the rapper learning the signs. "Actually being able to learn some of the words — being able to [sign] go or thank you or peace out — was fun," says Twista. "When I started rocking to the beat and the hearing impaired also were rocking to the beat, it felt really good to me. Moving and dancing to something that someone can't hear is big to me."

For the homegrown hip-hop artist, the partnership with Cue Everything was a chance to give back to his community. "I always want to represent the city. Anything for the hometown. I'm pre-Chicago. It's a quality he implores his fellow Midwest rappers to adopt. "When you look at the camaraderie between New York artists or Atlanta or West Coast artists, they really get in with each other, even if they're not cool with each other," he explains. "We definitely need to have an understanding that Midwest hip-hop follows suit and replicates the vibe they do on every other coast."

In early July, Twista will release his ninth album, dubbed "Dark Horse." He's sticking to the fast-paced style that's earned his fans' devotion for all these years. "If you're a fan [of my first album] Adrenaline Rush, you're going to be a Dark Horse fan," he says, but calling on some of his high-profile friends to add their own twist to the tracks. "It's going to be a star-studded event," he says. When people hear Tech N9ne and Wiz Khalifa, they're gonna be like 'This is coming out. Dark Horse is gonna be the bomb."

But Twista isn't only concerned with his name additions. He's committed to pushing it forward and helping younger artists succeed — especially if they're from Chicago. "All day, I'm always helping some new artist in some way," he says. "Anything I can do to represent the city of Chicago."

Artists on the rise
- "One of the first people to come to my mind is The Boy Illinois [inset]. He's toured with Lupe Fiasco and is really doing his thing."
- "Yung Sema. His lyrics are dope [and his name is] James spelled backwards."
- "Like Johnny May Cash. He's Young Chop's little brother. Young Chop is a big producer in Chicago."

"I did a song called 'Lavish' with Pharrell [Williams]. To watch him work on that song — I'd never seen a hip-hop producer display talent like that — in the studio. The way he came up with the melody for the song, I was really fascinated by how talented Pharrell was."
Kristin Chenoweth enchants audiences with a set at the Goodman Theatre gala — and a return to Broadway.

Not even broken bones can burst Kristin Chenoweth’s bubbly personality. Case in point: During her 2010 Broadway run of "Promises, Promises," the actress took the stage with a broken toe, singing and dancing the part of Fran Kubelik without betraying any pain. But midway through one of her numbers, Chenoweth’s shoe flew off and sailed into the audience. "All I saw were people ducking. A good five seconds later, the shoe was thrown back at me onstage," she says. "The audience just cracked up. None of us could dance or sing — we just laughed."
It's an anecdote that perfectly captures Chenoweth's irresistible zest for life, which she's brought to dozens of film and TV roles over the past 15 years — and, of course, to her singing. Though she has a speaking voice that she compares to Betty Boop, she's got a belt that's one of the best in the biz — for proof, just see her Tony and Emmy awards or her stint as the original Glinda in the smash-hit Broadway musical "Wicked." On May 17, she'll bring that coloratura soprano voice to Chicago, performing at the Goodman Theatre's annual gala. "I cannot wait!" Chenoweth says. "I love [Goodman Theatre Artistic Director] Robert Falls. I've never actually performed at Goodman, but the reputation at that theater precedes it. It's like being on Broadway — such good work comes out of the Goodman."

Galagoers have a surprise in store: Chenoweth, 45, is mixing up her set for the occasion and creating a new show, a combo of Broadway hits and tunes from her four studio albums. "Obviously there are some songs that I have to do because I'll be killed if I don't, but a lot of them are new," she says. "You have to change it up and keep new material coming into your life because you change as a person. I have to keep challenging myself."

It's something of an understatement when Chenoweth says she's changed as a person — she's gone through a complete fairytale reinvention. But it wasn't ruby slippers or a mighty wizard that helped the 4-foot-11-inch actress transform from a small-town Southern girl singing in church to a bona-fide Broadway star performing for packed houses.

Hailing from Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, Chenoweth was adopted as a 5-day-old by a family quick to encourage her musical interests. By the time she was 12, she was performing in church choirs. At Oklahoma City University, Chenoweth studied musical theater and opera, competing in beauty competitions on the side (she was even runner-up for Miss Oklahoma in 1991). It wasn't long before her considerable talent was recognized: Chenoweth was offered a full scholarship to Philadelphia's Academy of Vocal Arts. But just before school started, she visited New York and landed a role in the play "Animal Crackers." Just like that, Chenoweth left the scholarship behind and moved to the Big Apple to pursue theater.

By 29, she was receiving her first New York Times review — the paper lauded her turn as a "sob-prone ingénue" in "Scapin" as "delightful." After a string of parts in plays like "Steel Pier" and "Strike Up the Band," Chenoweth hit it big as Sally in "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," earning her a Tony for best actress in a musical. But it was playing cheerful witch Glinda in 2002's "Wicked" — a part penned specifically for Chenoweth, inspired by her sunny disposition — that launched her to a new level of fame.

The musical was a runaway sensation, garnering Chenoweth a Tony nomination and allowing her to split her talents between the stage and the screen. She won an Emmy for playing the unflaggingly chipper Olive Snook in ABC's 2007 dramedy "Pushing Daisies," snagged supporting roles in films like "The Pink Panther," "Stranger than Fiction" and "Bewitched," and in 2010, netted yet another Emmy nomination for her recurring spot on "Glee" as a has-been Broadway star. "I always like it when I can incorporate singing, but I also look for roles that keep challenging me and help me grow as an artist," she says. "From 'West Wing' to 'Glee' to 'Pushing Daisies' to 'Promises, Promises,' they're all very different parts."

Though she's not allowed to disclose details, the singer-actress has big news in store for her fans. "I do have plans [to return to Broadway]. I'll be there within a year for sure," she says. "I'm so excited. I miss it when I'm not there. It's hard, though. Definitely not for wimps." That's all she'll share for now — though she does acknowledge her personal preferences when choosing parts. "I always enjoy comedy and it's what I feel most at home [doing]," she says. "It's also incredibly challenging to be good at comedy and make it look easy."

See Chenoweth at the Goodman Theatre gala May 17. For tickets (starting at $1,000), visit Goodmantheatre.org.

Clockwise from top: Chenoweth and Idina Menzel star in "Wicked"; Chenoweth, Neil Simon and Burt Bacharach take a bow after "Promises, Promises"; Chenoweth is thrilled after winning an Emmy for her role in "Pushing Daisies." Inset: Chenoweth guest stars as April Rhodes in "Glee."

UP NEXT
What lies ahead on Chenoweth's yellow brick road

HER NEXT ROLE
While she rocketed to fame as Glinda the Good, Chenoweth will take a darker turn in 2015, starring as queen of mean Maleficent in the Disney Channel Original Movie "Descendants." The made-for-TV flick, which follows the teen offspring of Disney's most famous heroes and villains, will see Chenoweth's character butt proverbial horns with her daughter, Mal.

HER NEXT CLASS
"There's a theater in my hometown that bears my name. I'm very honored and proud of it — we didn't have that when I was growing up," she says. "I just did a master class with high school and college students. What I want to do is raise awareness of the arts in my hometown and help kids who can't afford to go to cello practice or piano or dance."

HER NEXT AWARD
"I've always said my whole life, I want to win a Grammy. That was important to me because I always sang growing up. But if you'd told me [as a child] that I'd have a Tony Award and an Emmy Award, I'd never have thought that was possible," she says.
We’re celebrating **FOUR LOCAL MOTHERS**
who oversee both their broods and their own
mom-centric businesses  **BY SAMANTHA LANDE**

Parenting can sometimes feel like a full-time job without the perks. There’s no paid
time-off, magically replenished supply closet or abundance of hands on deck. For
four local women, becoming mothers left them feeling frustrated — but, subse-
quently, inspired — by what they perceived to be significant gaps in the mommy
market, from educational resources and social events to high-quality, functional
kids’ clothing. So they decided to do something about it, each finding time in their jam-packed
schedules to take on another shift: starting their own mom-focused businesses.

**Monica Royer**

**Monica + Andy;**

Monica Royer always had a
knack for design, but it wasn’t until
the birth of her daughter in 2010
that the former pharmaceutical rep
felt inspired to put her creativity
to use. “My daughter was born on
the smaller side, and I found that
nothing fit her,” says Royer, 37.

“When I went online to buy her
clothes, I found a real void in the
baby apparel space.”

Enter Monica + Andy, Royer’s
apparel line for the small set,
named after the founder and her
brother, Andy Dunn (who owns
men’s clothing company Bonobos).
The line’s clothes are made exclu-
sively with material free of lead
and phthalate, full of vibrant colors
and engaging patterns, and, most
importantly, functional for toddlers
and babies. Though it’s been in
existence less than a year, Monica
+ Andy is already taking Chicago
by storm: Plans are in the works
to open a storefront next month
for the online-only shop, where
Royer will stock her one-of-a-kind
clothes and encourage local moms
and kids to gather.

Perhaps the most unique aspect
of Royer's business — and the one
she's most proud of — is that it's
staffed primarily by moms. “When
I was doing a class with my daugh-
ter at Bubbles [Academy], I met
a great group of supportive moms
who later became my copywriter,
photographer and so on,” she says.

Empathizing with her employee’s
hectic schedules, Royer aims to
keep things as flexible as possible,
allowing them to tote their tots
into the office whenever necessary.
She makes spending time with her
own toddler a priority, too, letting
go of the reins every now and then
and entrusting her staff with the
tiny details. “I can get a lot off of
my plate by just worrying about
what's on my plate,” she says.
Lindsay Pinchuk

Bump Club and Beyond;
Bumpclubandbeyond.com

When Lindsay Pinchuk was pregnant with her first child four years ago, she realized there were very few ways to meet other moms-to-be. "I knew I wanted a support system of friends who were pregnant at the same time as me, going through all of the trials and tribulations of pregnancy," says Pinchuk, a former Midwest account executive for Good Housekeeping.

What began as a few weekly workouts has blossomed into a full-fledged business, dubbed Bump Club and Beyond, which provides educational and social events for expectant and new moms in Chicago as well as Austin, Minneapolis, San Francisco and L.A. With online resources, social media connections and events — an event May 18 at the Marriott Michigan Avenue sees parenting expert Dr. Harvey Karp as a keynote speaker — Bump Club reaches more than 50,000 pregnant women and moms across the country. Pinchuk, 34, has also created a VIP program, which gives members exclusive access to discounts on everything from prenatal massages and play spaces to VIP events and retail outlets.

Entrepreneurial empire aside, Pinchuk's thrilled that she's fostering connections among women who might have never met otherwise. She says many moms who meet at Bump Club events now gather regularly in playgroups, for girls' nights or to talk about the challenges of parenthood. "The sense of community that Bump Club brings is what I'm most proud of. Pregnancy can be really isolating without support," Pinchuk says. Now a mother to two daughters under 4, Pinchuk is quick to call out the support of her own personal community, as well — particularly her husband, child care professionals and friends. "It's the only way I'm able to balance it all," she says.

Pinchuk teaches a baby food-making class as part of the Bump Club.

Emily Raisher

Preggers Maternity, 900 N. Michigan; Preggersmaternity.com

Emily Raisher still remembers the moment she came up with the idea for Preggers Maternity while sitting at lunch with her mother and sister in her hometown of Traverse City, Michigan, in 2004. "We [wanted to] do something to serve women and work together as a team," says Raisher, 36. "There were really no maternity stores in Traverse City at the time."

What began as a small storefront became one of Chicago's most popular maternity boutiques when it opened on Michigan Avenue in 2007. Realizing the potential of the business, Raisher quit her job as a CPS teacher to run the storefront full time (her mom, a CPA, still helps with the books and her sister is a silent partner).

What sets Preggers apart from standard maternity stores is its range: The shop stocks products for expectant moms as well as for infants and toddlers up to 2 years old. Raisher also avoids selling anything unoriginal, often scouring Chicago for local designers and eclectic small businesses. But what she enjoys most is providing her own personal touch. "I think with maternity clothes, you really need to try it on — they're not one size fits all," says Raisher. "I love to get to know these moms and later, have them come back in the store shopping for their kids or next baby. They remember how we helped them."

In order to see her family as much as possible, Raisher only spends three days each week in the store, doing a lot of the back-end work online. She makes it a priority to put her two kids — a son, 4, and daughter, 2 — to bed each night and always works around school performances. In response, her kids have created a "play office," where they mimic their mom's professional prowess. "I love that I can show them I can be a mom and a businesswoman," says Raisher. "I think that's important for them to learn."

Rachel Glasson

Twinkle Twinkle Little One, 207 W. Belmont; Twinkletwinkelittleone.com

Nine years ago, Rachel Glasson was pregnant with her first child and dreaming of decorating a gender-neutral nursery. But she quickly learned her options were limited to drab "nurseries in a box" with dull color schemes. After having her second child in 2007, Glasson realized nothing had changed. "It sparked an idea, something I thought could truly be successful in Chicago," she says.

The former mortgage broker promptly put together a business plan for a nursery design store and began attending all the major baby trade shows. "What I saw was a lot of cool stuff that no one was putting together in an artistic way," Glasson says. "People were just reinventing the same wheel over and over again."

So Glasson, 40, took it upon herself to kick-start a nursery renaissance, opening a shop in Roscoe Village in late 2007 stocked with highly curated artwork, custom bedding, fun kids furniture and personalized accessories. Last year, Glasson shuttered the original store in favor of a larger space that now functions as a showroom, housing sample layouts and additional furniture. Glasson and her staff are as hands-on as their clientele require, helping design a segment of a nursery (or big-kid room) or producing the entire thing.

As for how she manages it all with an 8- and 6-year-old at home: "a lot of energy and a tight-knit schedule," Glasson laughs. "It's a commitment, knowing I'm working late nights, but leaving the computer and phone alone when I'm with my kids at night and resuming again after." What keeps her going is the feedback she gets from her customers. "The best feeling in the world is getting an email from a customer thanking us for doing something for her."
The song “Fools Rush In” holds special meaning for Erica Jensen and Alex Motin. The two believe the lyrics describe their first meeting. Jensen, a senior business travel sales manager at The James Chicago, and Motin, a mechanical contractor at All Points-Schaumburg, first crossed paths at Moe’s Cantina (3518 N. Clark) after a Cubs game in July 2009. Both were immediately smitten. “One of my buddies was talking to her first, but I swooped in and things went very quickly from there,” says Motin. Fittingly, he played the tune as he popped the question to Jensen in December 2012, and 15 months later, they danced to Andrea Bocelli’s rendition at their March 22 wedding at Spiaggia (980 N. Michigan). The pair chose the venue for its elegant ambience, views of Lake Michigan and five-star Italian cuisine. “We love food and wine and I’m Italian, so it was perfect,” says Jensen. After the four-course feast, DJ Dmitry drew all 116 guests onto the dance floor with his eclectic playlist, which included Frank Sinatra, Katy Perry and traditional Russian tunes that paid homage to the groom’s heritage. But the evening didn’t end there — guests headed to Little Market Brasserie at the Talbott Hotel (10 E. Delaware) for the afterparty, where they drank and dined until 3 a.m.
Mother's Day is upon us — and moms everywhere have been eagerly awaiting the chance to kick up their feet and let other members of the household run things for a day. To give you an idea of what we really look forward to, I asked some of my favorite mamas to tell me their most beloved parts of the special day.

- All of the handmade cards and goodies from our kids
- Not having to cook all day
- Watching our spouses fumble around the kitchen because we're not cooking all day
- Brunch with mimosas
- Spending time with our own mothers
- No housework whatsoever
- Smiling graciously while saying: "No, you do it! It's Mother's Day and I'm off the clock!"
- The extra hugs and kisses
- The thought and effort that goes into any activity planned for the day
- Seeing everyone's cute Mother's Day pictures on Facebook

I think the general consensus is that moms want one full day when we don't have to do or plan anything. And let me tell you — dads, kids and significant others — we moms are so incredibly grateful to you for making our day so special. So be sure to smile a little brighter, hug a little longer and spend more quality time with your moms, wives and all the special ladies in your lives this Mother's Day. Happy Mother's Day to my own amazing mom. I love you so much!

The 47-year-old actor takes a look at foodie culture with 'Chef' BY ELLE EICHINGER

For having such a charmingly recognizable face — you might know it from films like 1993's "Rudy" or more recent hits like "Couples Retreat" and the "Iron Man" trilogy — Jon Favreau has managed to maintain a relatively low profile. Maybe it's because he does some of his best work off-screen: He's been writing, directing and producing films since 1996, when he propelled to fame after writing and starring in "Swingers" with Vince Vaughn (who he met while auditioning for "Rudy"). This month, Favreau combines his multiple talents in "Chef," a pet project he wrote, directed, produced and stars in, a story inspired by Anthony Bourdain's book, "Kitchen Confidential," years ago (and) shows like 'Top Chef' and 'The Mind of a Chef' really suck you in. I'm also a dad now, and I felt like I wanted to say something that wasn't just escapist entertainment, as most of the big movies are. I wanted to do something closer to my independent film roots.

Clockwise from right: with Emjay Anthony in "Chef," with Kristin Davis in "Couples Retreat" and with Vince Vaughn in "Swingers"

Hats off
"I'm very fascinated by the chef culture that's beginning to permeate the media, I love the characters, the personalities, the passion. I read Anthony Bourdain's book, "Kitchen Confidential," years ago (and) shows like 'Top Chef' and 'The Mind of a Chef' really suck you in. I'm also a dad now, and I felt like I wanted to say something that wasn't just escapist entertainment, as most of the big movies are. I wanted to do something closer to my independent film roots.

Cooking 101
"Roy Choi is a chef who really founded the food truck movement and had a story very similar to the chef in my script. I brought him on to help consult. I was always good enough to cook bachelor food, but Roy sent me off for some very traditional French training before he ever let me come into his kitchen. Of course there's some movie magic in there, but I really hunkered down and worked for months on it because I wanted it to look real."

If I weren't acting...
"I studied science — I was thinking about being an engineer — and then, right before I moved to Chicago, I took the New York City Fire Department test. I had already worked on Wall Street for about a year and it wasn't for me, but a firefighter seemed like a really good, solid job; people who did it seemed to really love it (and) I knew I wanted to do something that I loved. I was also a cartoonist — I did some graphic art freelance when I was in Chicago."

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Chris Lemmon loved his dad. A lot. An old-school star whose quirks and everyman persona converged to create winning — and sometimes shocking — performances, Jack Lemmon was one of film's most admired actors. And his son doesn't want us to forget that. "There are kids who don't know who Jack Lemmon is, and this man was a world-renowned icon," he says.

"And much more importantly, he was a genuinely good guy." To that end, the younger Lemmon has collaborated with Hershey Felder (creator of "George Gershwin Alone" and "Maestro: The Art of Leonard Bernstein") on a affectionate homage entitled "Jack Lemmon Returns."

Chris Lemmon first offered a personal glimpse of his dad in his 2006 memoir "A Twist of Lemmon," in which he recalled fishing trips to Alaska, good times around the piano (Chris went on to study music at the California Institute of the Arts) and his father's friendships with such stars as Walter Matthau. The book was the springboard for the current show, in which Chris sings, plays the piano and portrays dozens of personalities from James Cagney to Tallulah Bankhead — all filtered through the identity of his dad. But there's more to this showbiz-driven vehicle than anecdotes and impersonations. "It's a story about a father and son," explains Chris. "And that is one of the most enigmatic relationships you can have. It's loving but it's competitive, it's caring but judgmental." While Chris has no patience for Mom-mie Dearest-style excoriations, he says he doesn't shy away from his dad's darker side. "He had demons. And we confront those demons in the play and we are victorious against them, Pop and I."

While renowned for inimitable comic turns in "Some Like It Hot" and "The Odd Couple," Chris says his father took particular pleasure in playing the alcoholic Joe Clay in "Days of Wine and Roses" and the compromised C.C. Baxter in "The Apartment." As Chris relates, "My father's greatest hero was [French actor] Jean-Louis Barrault, who made you laugh and cry at the same time. That's what he wanted to do in his career, and was finally able to do with these characters."

As for Chris, whose own career includes appearances on stage and screen, "Jack Lemmon Returns" represents what he hopes will be a deeply defining moment. "This is that one piece I've been looking for my entire life. I truly think if it works, when my days are done, I'll be able to look back and say, 'I did that.'"
Best in beauty
Put your best face forward at Bloomingdale’s morning runway show May 17. The event will feature the latest eye, lip and skincare trends, and Spash’s own Susanna Negovan will mingle with guests as they enjoy one-on-one makeup sessions. Take home product samples and score a manicure when you spend $125. A $25 reservation fee is credited toward your purchases. 7:30 a.m., RSVP to Alison Fichter at (312) 386-7440 or email RSVPNorthMichigan@bloomingdales.com. 900 N. Michigan, Shop900.com

Al fresco art
Soak up springtime with an art-and-fashion-filled day at Oakbrook Center’s Festival of the Arts May 18. From jewelry corn., 900 N. Michigan; Shop900.corn (312) 440-4515 or email RSVPNorthMichigan@bloomingdales.com (312) 386-7440. RSVP to Alison Fichter. 100 Oakbrook Center, Oakbrook; Oakbrookcenter.com

Model behavior
Mario Tricoci Hair Salon & Day Spa paves the way for five aspiring models, who face off in a runway competition at the sixth annual Mario, Make Me a Model competition May 16. After training at Fitness Formula Clubs and receiving coaching from Factor Women and Chosen Model Management and makeovers by Mario Tricoci, the finalists will strut their stuff — from Factor Women and Chosen Model Management and makeovers by Mario Tricoci, the finalists will strut their stuff — donning looks by local designers, including Agnes Hamerlik, Azeeza, Lagi Nadeau, Misanthrope and Two Penny Blue — for the sixth annual Mario, Make Me a Model competition May 16. Aspiring models, who face off in a runway competition at the Mario Tricoci Hair Salon & Day Spa paves the way for five model behavior — Mario Tricoci awards Mario, Make Me a Model 2012 winner Caroline Mazurek (center).
#mychicagostory

RIDE ON

Catherine Bullard on learning to live with loss

On May 29, 2013, my boyfriend Bobby Cann and I were planning trips and meals and bike rides. Bobby was looking forward to an upcoming promotion at Groupon and he was thinking about beginning to write short stories. That evening, it was all taken from him. As he was biking home from work, Bobby was struck and killed by an allegedly drunk driver. Despite the heroic efforts of a passing nurse and the EMTs, Bobby was pronounced dead shortly after the crash. He was 26 years old.

The months that followed are a mix of piercing clarity and haze to me now. There was the first funeral in Chicago and the second in New Hampshire, Bobby’s home state, after which I slept in his old room amid his college textbooks and Boy Scout pictures. There were moments when I felt Bobby so viscerally beside me that I was convinced he’d squeezed my hand or spoken my name. After three months of trying to find Bobby again, I looked around me and realized, this is it.

But “this” was a different world from the one I remembered. It was one from which people vanished without warning or trace. I eventually became convinced that I, too, would vanish. This feeling wasn’t just from hopelessness or befuddlement. In loving Bobby, I had sworn to bear witness to his life, to walk beside him so he was never alone. It felt unfair and absurd that I had not been able to stand by him in his experience of death. It seemed inevitable—and in some ways desirable—that I would follow his fate.

Luckily, my immediate and extended family rallied around me. Bobby’s own family let me into their hearts. Friends new and old showed me unfathomable grace. With their help, I recovered from the darkest months of my grief. But I still haven’t been able to shake the question of what is to be done. How can I pay tribute to the injustice of Bobby’s death and everything stolen from him while still living my life?

For now, it has meant joining with Bobby’s family and friends to support one another as we navigate this tragedy. It has meant attending court hearings to show the defense and the judge that we love Bobby and care about safe roads. It has meant lobbying to raise awareness of drunk driving and cycling safety measures. But for all this, I hope it will eventually mean even more. I hope Bobby’s death helps us all be more mindful on our commutes—helps us view drivers and cyclists not as isolated entities alone on the road, but the epicenters of so many fragile universes of love.

I recently dreamed about Bobby. We were on our way to a campsite for a long weekend. Though he was happy, I was terrified he would vanish at any moment, as he had from so many of my other dreams. Despite waking up half asleep in the dream, when I fell back asleep he was still there. “I’m not going to leave you,” he said. All I could say was, “It is just so good to hear your voice.”

To contribute to drunk driving and cycling safety measures in honor of Bobby, visit Rideonbobby.com. To donate blood on the anniversary of his death, sign up at Tinylink.net/0ji0d.
GOING FOR BROKERS

Five questions to help you reap the rewards of a rebounding market

BY MADELINE NUSser

1. How will you keep me informed about my sale’s progress?

Know how often your broker will touch base with you, and be comfortable with that answer. Beth Bird has worked with properties broker Connie Grunwaldt (right) on six transactions, including her $1.229 million listing at 2153 W. Cuyler (above). “She goes the extra mile to make sure you, as a customer, are comfortable and informed,” Bird says. “She is willing to work with you as a coach to help you understand the industry and reach your goals.”

2. Have you sold a home in my area?

Finding a broker with knowledge of your community — including your specific home type and price range — is key. When Robert Sheridan, a builder in the business for nearly 40 years, called Coldwell Banker for a broker recommendation in a market new to him, the brokerage suggested Paulette Edwards (above), an agent specializing in South Side homes. Sheridan has collaborated with Edwards on about 20 listings, including four-bedroom 8918 S. May (above) for $159,000, and places her “in the top tier of agents in any city.” What separates her from the pack? An intimate knowledge of area buyers’ preferences, from a deep interior color palette to an above-grade, multibedroom layout.

3. Can you recommend service providers, especially when problems arise?

Your agent should keep a list of qualified inspectors, attorneys and home-repair companies. Bird says three weeks after Grunwaldt helped her close on a previous home, major structural issues emerged. “She didn’t have to help, but she was at my home in five minutes with great resources,” Bird says.

4. How will you market my home?

Home buying has changed in the last decade — and your broker should have a plan. Edwards, who earned degrees in interior and fashion design, combines her staging skills with frequent social media use. Home images hold power. These days, about 90 percent of buyers start their search on the Internet.

5. What’s your philosophy for working with clients?

Finding out how your agent relates with others can prevent a personality clash. When Joseph Cesarik met Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices KoenigRubloff Realty Group broker Bohdan Gorczynski (right), he immediately felt “impressed with his genuineness, likability and people skills,” says Cesarik, who is selling a townhouse at 123 W. Oak, Unit C, for $1.295 million. For his part, Gorczynski believes that “agents should not be pushy. Understanding a client is important; a home is really an individual thing.”

ON THE SIDE

This summer, consignment warehouse Coyle & Herr is moving into new digs at 3031 N. Rockwell. For now, you can shop its Bridgeport warehouse, stuffed with goodies like these butter-yellow octagonal side tables, two for $150 or $88.50 a pop. 1200 W. 35th; Shopcoyleandherr.com
Mommy maven

Marketing consultant, philanthropist and Chicago mom Frances Renk greets spring in style

Matthew Lew: artwork starts at $180; Matthewlew.com

"Pop art makes your home look and feel like spring every day. My husband and I both love and collect his artwork."

Lutz Chicago Bakery: strawberry shortcake, $34.99, 2458 W. Montrose; Chicagobakery.com

"Delicious, delectable and enticing cakes and pastries for every occasion."

Sequin: Goodnight Moon talisman necklace, $98, Neiman Marcus, 737 N. Michigan, Neimanmarcus.com

"This piece — from my family's jewelry business, Sequin — is symbolic of renewal and the transition into spring."

Havalanas: flip-flops start at $18, Macy's, 111 N. State; Macys.com

"Stylish and comfortable flip-flops to show off spring pedicures. I have them in almost every color."

Nike: Flyknit Lunar2 gym shoes, $150, 669 N. Michigan; Nike.com

"When I'm not in my heels, these colorful knitted shoes make me feel stylish."

Lincoln Antique Mall: vintage antique large Victorian brass chandelier, $1,400, 3115 W. Irving, Lincolnantiquemaill.com

"Owner Kristine Monagle finds me irreplaceable treasures. I covet and collect her pieces and her prices are a fraction of what other antique dealers charge."

Lincoln Antique Mall: floral designs start at $75, 836 N. Western, Lake Forest, Lakeforestilinois.net/ lordanandmar.html

"The most beautiful springtime arrangements in the Chicago area."

Funky Weasel: custom home theater accessories start at $300, 2139 W. Roscoe, Funkyweasel.com

"Bring fresh sounds to your home."

Mario Tricoci: cuts start at $35, 900 N. Michigan; Tricoci.com

"The new season gives me a reason to get a makeover. I love cuts by master stylist Miguel."

Lord & Mar: floral designs start at $75, 036 N. Western, Lake Forest, Lakeforestilinois.net/ lordanandmar.html

"Owner Kristine Monagle finds me irreplaceable treasures. I covet and collect her pieces and her prices are a fraction of what other antique dealers charge."

CocoonCare: classes start at $23, 409 W. Huron; Cocooncare.com

"The most creative child care classes in River North. They can make anything out of paper plates."

Nike: Flyknit Lunar2 gym shoes, $150, 669 N. Michigan; Nike.com

"When I'm not in my heels, these colorful knitted shoes make me feel stylish."

Marlo Tricoci: cuts start at $35, 900 N. Michigan; Tricoci.com

"The new season gives me a reason to get a makeover. I love cuts by master stylist Miguel."

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Funky Weasel: custom home theater accessories start at $300, 2139 W. Roscoe, Funkyweasel.com

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Photo by Mark Seliger, 2013.
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MARIANO’S
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Sarah Campbell & Jay Zimmerman

Sarah, originally from Grayslake, and Jay, from Plainfield, met in January 2006. The couple married Oct. 12 at St. Mary Immaculate Parish in Plainfield, the church Jay grew up attending and where his mom is a Eucharistic minister. Purple and silver created a modern backdrop for their Chicago Marriott Naperville wedding. The couple live in Bartlett.

We want to share your engagement, wedding or anniversary story — free of charge. For more information, contact Renee Lee at rlee@bouquetcatcher.com or 312-651-6613.

**Pioneer Press Mortgage Guide**

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**Mortgage Prediction**

Each week Bankrate surveys mortgage experts to predict which way rates will go in coming weeks. Here is what they say this week (5/14/14)

- **Up**: 20%
- **Down**: 20%
- **Unchanged**: 60%

**Source**: Bankrate.com 2014

**30 year fixed and 5/1 arm rates for Loan Amounts up to $1 Million**

- **30 yr fixed**: 3.900
- **15 yr fixed**: 2.900
- **5 yr ARM**: Call for Rates

**30 yr fixed and 5/1 arm rates for Loan Amounts up to $1 Million**

- **30 yr fixed**: 3.850
- **15 yr fixed**: 2.850
- **5 yr ARM**: Call for Rates

**Source**: Bankrate.com 2014

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**Source**: Bankrate.com 2014
Botanic Garden's popular railroad exhibit back on track

BY MYRNA PETUCIØ
For Sun-Times Media

The Model Railroad Garden at the Chicago Botanic Garden features 18 tracks that run past nearly 50 landmarks.

"The Model Railroad Garden: Landmarks of America" was installed at the Chicago Botanic Garden in 2000 as a one-time exhibit. "It was supposed to be that summer's blockbuster," said Kristie Webber, director of interpretive programs. The exhibit was so popular that it has been brought back every year since. And each year something new is added.

This year, visitors can watch 18 trains chugging along on 18 tracks past nearly 50 landmarks. The sights range from a working Old Faithful geyser to the rigley Field and a detailed Main Street. Most amazing of all is that those landmarks are created from such natural materials as gourds, mushrooms and acorn caps.

The garden was designed by Applied Imagination, a Kentucky-based company led by landscape architect Paul Busse, who had gained a reputation for his unique railroad gardens. "He was doing things in a very naturalistic and a very different way than railroad gardens had been done previously," Webber said.

Each year, new elements are added. This year, it's the Old Faithful Inn at Yellowstone Park. "It is said to be the largest log structure in the world," Webber noted. "It is huge and it is detailed and it is gorgeous," said Chief Engineer Dave Rodelius, a fixture at the exhibit since the beginning. "We try to add something new and different each year to entice new people and our old friends to come back. We don't have room for any new tracks so we change the train operation. Instead of Chicago and Northwestern, we'll go to Baltimore and Ohio, or something like that. We do like to keep the trains that run out of Chicago."

Rodelius is a perfect person to keep the exhibit on track. "I've been a model railroader since I was about eight years old and my mom and dad bought me my first Lionel train," he said. "I ran into the job by accident."

The retiree was working as a train driver when he saw the exhibit being installed. Then he noticed that the secretary of his department was carrying around a model train and teased her about taking it home for her children. "She said, 'What business is it of yours?' Rodelius recalled. He explained that he was a model railroader. Shortly after that, he was called into the vice president's office and was offered the job of chief engineer. "I accepted it without asking how much I had to pay to do it," joked Rodelius, who was a professional photographer for 35 years. "It has been a great retirement job."

Rodelius particularly enjoys interacting with visitors to the exhibit. "We get questions from older people about some of the trains that used to run that they remember," Rodelius said. The most frequent question is whether the trains have accidents. "Of course, we have to tell them yes," he said. "Just like the real railroads, we have our own accidents. The couplers weaken during a long period of time and then they'll start breaking loose." That may cause a train to stop as it is going over a crossing, "and the engines will come around and bash it in the middle," Rodellius related.

Rodelius and a crew member get to the scene and make the necessary repairs to get the train running again. "Sometimes, if we do it quickly, we get applause," he reported, adding, "The kids love wrecks."
JCC actors find darkness and joy in ‘Oklahoma!’

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
For Sun-Times Media

It's the early 1900s and romance is in the air for a cowboy named Curly and a gal named Laurey in “Oklahoma!” JCC Theater is taking audiences back to that time and place in its production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's landmark musical.

“It's a classic,” said Children's Theatre Manager Robert Bouwman, who directs. “It's the show that began changing how musical theater was done.” The 1943 musical is often credited with being the first “book musical,” in which the songs are fully integrated into the story.

Bouwman wanted to direct the show because “the music is great.” As he worked on the show, though, something about it surprised him. “I didn't realize how dark and twisted it can be,” the director said. “The Jud character is pretty frightening.”

Jud is an aggressive farmhand who lusts after Laurey.

Bouwman noted that “everyone's playing a game with each other in this show. The consequences of that are a little bit more dire than they originally intended. It reminds you about how things can get out of hand.”

Bouwman’s production focuses on the game-playing. “I'm also exploring the darker element,” he said.

Laurey is played by 17-year-old Haia Bchiri of Skokie, a junior at Ida Crown Jewish Academy. This is Haia's 30th show, but her first as the leading lady. She hopes to have a career helping people through theater, either as a drama therapist or working with a theater for the deaf. “It's given me a lot and I want to give back,” she explained.

Her character in “Oklahoma!” surprised Haia. “Laurey is far more complex than I had thought coming to the show,” Haia said. “She comes off initially as rather immature and petty. But as you get to know her you learn that she is far more intelligent than meets the eye. She's witty. She understands a lot about human nature. She's less sheltered than one would expect of a woman of her time. And she's very strong.”

Even though Laurey has decided that Curly is the man for her, “She’s not going to just accept him,” Haia said. “He has to earn her declaration of love. She's not going to be the damsel in distress because she wants a relationship in which she has equal footing.”

Ben Eisenstein of Skokie, a 16-year-old junior at Ida Crown Jewish Academy, plays Curly. “All of my siblings did shows at the J, so it was something I knew I was going to do,” the veteran of 10 shows said.

Ben described Curly as “a tremendous smart aleck. He's got all these amazing cheeky lines in the show. He has the kind of life he wants.” On the other hand, “He's been pining after Laurey for some time now — but a lot of people are.”

The musical is filled with beautiful songs. Haia's favorite is the reprise of “People Will Say We're in Love.”

Ben Eisenstein in the tree and beneath, from left, are Gabriel Wacks, Haia Bchiri and Leah Gaynor.

“OKLAHOMA!”
JCC Theater, Elaine and Zollie Frank Theater, Mayer Kaplan JCC, 5050 Church St., Skokie
Noon and 3:30 p.m. Sundays, May 18 and June 1; and 7 p.m. Thursdays, May 22 and 29
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Little Miss Ann will perform her popular kids’ concert on June 4 at the Park Ridge Public Library.

A toe-tapping, hand-clapping kids’ concert

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
For Sun-Times Media

Everybody will be involved when Little Miss Ann performs a Kids' Concert, 10-10:45 a.m. Wednesday, June 4 at the Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave. “It’s very interactive,” said Ann Torralba, aka Little Miss Ann. “We’ll do a lot of movement — finger play, clapping. I’ll have volunteers singing into my microphone.”

Some selections will be from, “Follow Me,” Torralba’s recently-released fourth CD. Seven of the songs are original, including “Can You Make a Circle?”, which is already a fan favorite. Lyrics are by Kristi Thom.

“It’s almost indie rock and it’s very interactive,” said Torralba. She added that it has a positive message “about trying new things in life.”

The guitarist/singer/songwriter will be accompanied by another musician on fiddle and keyboard.

Registration begins Saturday, May 17. The concert is free to Park Ridge Library cardholders, $3 for everyone else.

For details, call (847) 824-3149 or go to www.parkridgelibrary.org.

PLAY WITH A PURPOSE

Sensory activities, crafts and songs designed for children with special needs will be led by play therapists at Club Wonder: Lekotek Stories and Play, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 17 at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. The literacy-boosting experience is geared toward ages 3-7 with a caregiver. Registration is required.

For details, call (847) 982-3149 or go to www.parkridgelibrary.org.

KIDS WON'T WANT TO SAY SAYONARA

A variety of activities will introduce families to another culture at the Malott Japanese Garden Children's Festival, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, May 17 and Sunday, May 18 at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. There will be traditional storytelling, a tea ceremony, and music. The event is free.

For details, call (847) 835-5440 or go to www.chicagobotanic.org.
New 'Godzilla' bigger, badder and dumber

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Film Critic

It's bigger, badder, louder and more spectacular, of course, but despite its $160 million budget, the new "Godzilla" is still, at heart, a big, dumb, old-fashioned monster movie — not all that different from any random appearance by the big G back in the '60s.

But that's not necessarily a bad thing.

What's the main appeal of a Godzilla movie? Seeing him stomp stuff, of course, whether that happens to be a major city or another monster dumb enough to get in his face. And savoring that patented, stentorian Godzilla roar. And we get all of that and more in "Godzilla" 2014. Just don't expect deep drama.

And while you're not expecting things, don't expect Godzilla himself to show up for a good long while. We have to make do with the opening act first, a special-guest monster that's been gestating for millions of years before finally deciding to go on a rampage. Kind of anti-climactically, really, considering that they look like giant dung beetles. And get stuck with the clunky name of MUTO (for Massive Unidentified Terrestrial Organism). The MUTOs (they're a male/female tag-team) feed on nuclear energy, though, and think of missiles as snack food. Fortunately, Godzilla has an ancestral-memory grudge going on with them and eventually feels obliged to rise up from the depths and handle the situation.

Sound silly? Well, it is, but here's the thing: the new "Godzilla" looks awesome. Tremendously awesome, at its best, and it sounds even better — just wait until you hear that magnificent roar. Director Gareth Edwards, a former visual-effects specialist collaborating with "Lord of the Rings" Oscar-winner Jim Rygiel, knows how to do rock-'em/sock-'em monster combat. If you can shut off your brain for a couple of hours, you might be convinced something serious is going on.

This is one of those Godzilla outings where the big guy's on our side, inexplicably, exhibiting a scrupulous concern for human life and property even while we're trying to kill him. And the best that can be said about the human drama that makes up the bulk of the running time is that it's easy to ignore. Bryan Cranston of "Breaking Bad" as a scientist obsessed with solving the MUTO-related mystery of his wife's death, Aaron Taylor-Johnson of "Kick-Ass" as his combat-trained MUTO-fighting son, and Ken Watanabe of "The Last Samurai" as a Godzilla expert warning the army to back off, all provide emotionally bogus filler between monster attacks.

Not that it's likely anyone's going into this movie expecting an actual cathartic dramatic experience. If that's what you want, check out the 1954 original. Preferably the original original, the Japanese-language version complete with its brooding A-bomb anxieties.

This "Godzilla" has nothing to offer but some expertly executed thrills.
Grab your capes! It’s time to celebrate our favorite superheroes with delicious recipes courtesy of Matthew Mead, author of “The Official DC Super Hero Cookbook.”

**Green Arrow Fruit Kabobs**

Count Vertigo and the Clock King have met their match with this cute dessert that’s full of healthy goodness.

You need:
- Strawberries (washed)
- Green grapes (washed)
- Green apples (washed)
- Kiwi
- Melon (cantaloupe or honeydew)
- Wooden skewers

**Directions:**
- Remove green leaves from strawberries and set aside.
- Cut kiwi and apples into thin slices.
- Use a sharp knife to cut melon pieces into “feathers.”
- Carefully, place fruit on skewers so that each skewer resembles an arrow. Make sure the strawberries are at the tip of the arrows and the melon quivers are in the back.
- Bullseye!

**Up, Up and Away Yogurt Parfait**

Faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive, this delicious breakfast is a sure way to start the day. Clark Kent would approve.

**You need:**
- 6 oz. plain or vanilla yogurt
- Red, yellow and blue food coloring gel (available in the baking aisle at most grocery stores)
- Tart cherries (in syrup)
- Fresh raspberries
- Parfait glass

**Directions:**
- Divide yogurt into 2 small bowls, putting roughly 2/3 in one bowl and 1/3 in the other.
- Add a drop of blue gel to the bowl with more yogurt. Blend until the yogurt is the color of Superman’s suit.
- Add a drop of yellow gel to the other bowl of yogurt. Blend until it’s the color of Superman’s S-shield.
- Plunk a spoonful of sour cherries and a few raspberries at the bottom of the parfait glass. Gently layer half of the blue yogurt on top of the red fruit, being careful not to mix layers.
- Next, add another layer of cherries and raspberries. Then add the entire bowl of yellow yogurt, which will create a nice bright yellow stripe. Add another layer of raspberries and cherries and a final layer of blue yogurt. Top with some cherries and a raspberry or two.

**Man of Steel Burgers**

You don’t need a phone booth to transform ordinary hamburgers into super burgers.

**You need:**
- Hamburger patties
- Hamburger buns
- Cheese slices
- Ketchup

**Directions:**
- Prepare burgers as desired and place on buns.
- Cut cheese slices into S-shields.
- Pour ketchup into a plastic squeeze bottle.
- Use squeeze bottle to outline the border and draw an “S” on each shield.
- Serve burgers with tomatoes, chips, fries... anything but Kryptonite.

—Thank you to Matthew Mead and his publisher Downtown Bookworks for sharing these super-fun recipes. For more information about “The Official DC Super Hero Cookbook,” including where to buy it, visit dtbwpub.com.
**GO CALENDAR**

**THURSDAY, MAY 15**

**Classic Film Series: 'Manhattan'**
I p.m.: A screening of the 1979 comedy about a divorced writer who falls in love with his best friend’s mistress in the midst of a romantic relationship with a teenage girl. Starring Woody Allen, Diane Keaton and Mariel Hemingway. 96 minutes. Eisenhower Public Library, 4639 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights.

**Travel Film**
2 p.m.: Enjoy a family-film movie traveling through a different part of the world. Call 847-825-3123 to find out what movie is playing this week. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge.

**Hot Ticket: '12 Years a Slave'**
6:30 p.m.: This Best Picture winner stars Chiwetel Ejiofor and Michael Williams. Call 847-929-5101 or check out the Movies & More page on www.mgl.org to learn more. 135 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

**Fantabulous 2014!**
7 p.m.: KISS-FM’s spring concert features Jason Derulo, Austin Mahone, Timelines and Rixton. Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. $39.50.

**Family Movie Night: ‘Walking with Dinosaurs’**
7 p.m.: A screening of the 2013 computer-animated film about an undercover dinosaur who proves that he’s a hero. 87 minutes. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie.

**Pancake Breakfast: Refuge for Women**
9 a.m.: Make a donation at this pancake breakfast to benefit a safe house opening in Chicago. Bethany Baptist Church, 6700 W. Gunnison St., Harwood Heights. Call 807-867-8111.

**Second Annual Bike Niles Event**
9 a.m.: Learn about bike safety and practice biking on the event’s courses. Culver School, 6501 W. Oakton St., Niles.

**Spring Piano Recital**
3 p.m.: Piano students perform. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 W. Oakton Ave., Harwood Heights.

**Critics’ Choice Cinema: ‘In the Name Of’**
2 p.m.: A priest living in rural Poland struggles is with his vow of celibacy. Must be 21 or older to attend. $22 and a minimum of two food or drink purchases. Additional performances Friday at 10:30 p.m. and Saturday at 9:30 p.m. Zanies Comedy Night Club Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont.

**An Evening of Comedy, Spoken Word and Music**
7:30 p.m.: Join author and comedian Debbie Sue Goodman and her friends for this presentation. Debbie Sue is an author of several books. Find out more about her at www.stillsingle.org. The Gneenveldt Grind, 989 Waukegan Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-0311.

**SATURDAY, MAY 17**

**Saturday Family Films: ‘Chimpanzee’**
2 p.m.: The Disneynature movie about a 3-month-old chimpanzee that is separated from his troop and adopted by an adult male. Stars Tim Allen. 78 minutes. Evanston Public Library - Chicago Avenue Branch, 900 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Call 847-805-6764.

**Spring Piano Recital**
3 p.m.: Piano students perform. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights.

**70th Anniversary of D-Day: ‘The Longest Day’**
1:30 p.m.: Watch the 1962 Academy Award-winning classic about D-Day from the Allied and German points of view. Stars John Wayne, Robert Ryan and Richard Burton. 178 minutes. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

**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.

**TAG Meeting**
7 p.m.: Teens meet to plan future programming at the library and enjoy pizza. Registration required. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-324-3114.

**MGPL After Dark: Jazz Consortium Big Band**
7 p.m.: Enjoy monthly performances on a Friday night in this after-hours series. The Jazz Consortium Big Band, led by saxophonist Roy Vombracht, will be jumping and jiving with a brand new set list of classic, modern and original tunes. Don’t miss an evening of toe-tapping jazz, swing and jazz-rock music with this acclaimed group. For more information, go to calendar.mgl.org or call 847-929-5101. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

**Skokie Festival of Cultures**
11 a.m.: The two-day event celebrates different cultures through music, dance, food, crafts, artwork, displays, games, shopping and more. Oakton Park Community Center, 4701 W. Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-673-0240.

**Beagle Fest**
11 a.m.: Enjoy a day of raffles, contests, food and everything beagle. This event is open to people interested in adopting a beagle or not. Oakton Baiting Cages, 2800 W. Oakton St., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-5127.

**Tape Art**
Noon: A hands-on lesson on the techniques used to create art out of duct tape. Mather’s, 7134 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago. Call 773-774-4804. $12 suggested donation.

**A ‘Meat’ing with ManBlue**
Noon: ManBlue is a men’s grilling and lifestyle organization born out of Chicago’s rock ‘n’ roll community and grown into a global network of DIY grillers, music lovers, craft-beer aficionados and adventure seekers. Learn how the group began and sample some of recipes from their all-new cookbook. Copies will also be available for purchase. Registration required. Elmwood Park Public Library, W. Comi Parkway, Elmwood Park. Call 847-453-7645.

**Sunday, May 18**

**Norwegian Constitution Day Parade**
Noon: The parade features local marching bands, singing societies, folk dancers and Scandinavian organizations. Pre-parade activities in Hodges Park at noon and will include refreshments, activities for children, Scandinavian vendors and displays. Entertainment will be provided by the Swedish American Children’s Choir, Merula Chorus and Chicago Spelmanslag. Hodges Park, 101 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge.

**Film Screenings by IndieFix**
1:30 p.m.: A weekly screening of an independent or foreign film. Call 708-867-7826 for titles. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights.
Call 847-328-4512.

Evanston Music Club Scholarship Winners Concert
1 p.m.: College scholarship winners perform. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-328-4512.

Trivia Night
8 p.m.: Winners receive gift cards. Specials include $4 Budweiser products and 60-cent wings. Buffalo Wild Wings, 7020 Carpenter Road, Skokie. Call 847-329-9333.

TUESDAY, MAY 20

Film: 'Emperor'
11:30 a.m.: Immediately after Emperor Hirohito's World War II surrender, General MacArthur suddenly finds himself the de facto ruler of a foreign nation. He challenges his expert on Japanese culture, General Fellers to provide evidence in 10 short days to decide if the Japanese emperor, worshipped as a god by his people but accused of war crimes, should be punished or saved, as the fate of a nation waits. The film stars Tommy Lee Jones, Matthew Fox, Kaori Momoi and Eriko Hatsune. 106 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 6400 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Critic's Choice: ‘Out of Africa’ by Isak Dinesen
1 p.m.: The group joins to watch the film version of the book read during the month, followed by a discussion. Mather's, 7134 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago.

Laura Freeman-Sentimental Journey: The Music of Doris Day
8 p.m.: Chicago cabaret favorite Laura Freeman hosts a celebration of the music of Doris Day. Having recorded over 600 songs, Day is known for such hits as 'Sentimental Journey,' Secret Love and Everybody Loves a Lover. Doris was not just a pretty voice and a pratfall. She represents the spirit of us all, at various times in history. Join the theater in celebrating Day. With music director Beckie Menzie, Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. $20.

SATURDAY, MAY 24

Family Movie: 'Sleeping Beauty'
2 p.m.: A princess is put under a curse that only a prince can break, with the help of three good fairies. 75 minutes. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

THURSDAY, MAY 22

Night (H)owsers: Late-Night TV Pioneers
1 p.m.: Oakton Community College Professor Bob Burton highlights the memorable moment from the pioneering days of late-night TV and discusses how it continues to evolve. Mather's, 7134 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago. Call 773-774-4804.

Classic Film Series: 'The Prisoner of Shark Island'
7 p.m.: Watch the rediscovered 1936 film about Dr. Samuel Mudd, who was imprisoned after innocently treating President Lincoln's assassin. Stars Warner Baxter, Gloria Stuart and Claude Gillingwater. 96 minutes. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-328-4512.

THURSDAY, MAY 23

All-You-Can-Eat Pancakes
Noon: Mather's, 7134 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago. Call 773-774-4804.
CHEF
Rated R for language, including some suggestive references.
Stars: Jon Favreau, John Leguizamo, Scarlett Johansson, Dustin Hoffman.
After giving up his job at a high-end restaurant, a chef (Favreau) opens a food truck and tries to win back his estranged family. Favreau ("Iron Man," "Swingers") wrote and directed the comedy.

FOR NO GOOD REASON
Rated R for language, some drug content and brief sexual images.
Stars: Johnny Depp, Ralph Steadman.
Johnny Depp, friend of the late gonzo journalist Hunter S. Thompson, pays a visit to Thompson's illustrator, the equally gonzo English artist Ralph Steadman. Charlie Paul makes his directorial debut with the documentary.

GODZILLA
★★ 1/2
Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of destruction, mayhem and creature violence.
Stars: Aaron Taylor-Johnson, Elizabeth Olsen, Bryan Cranston, Ken Watanabe.
This $160 million reboot is still a big, dumb monster movie at heart, but that's not necessarily a bad thing. There's lots of miscellaneous human drama to wade through involving lots of not-quite-A-list stars, but the main attraction is a prehistoric-era grudge match between the big G and a couple of bad-guy monsters that look like giant dung beetles. Sure, that might sound silly, and it is, really, but the important thing is that the new "Godzilla" looks and sounds awesome. Tremendously awesome at best. Just wait until you hear this crazy reptile roar.

MILLION DOLLAR ARM
★★ 1/2
Rated PG for mild language and some suggestive content.
Stars: Jon Hamm, Alan Arkin, Lake Bell, Suraj Sharma, Madhur Mittal.
As bland, family-friendly, wholesome inspirational sports movies go, "Million Dollar Arm" has its moments. It's just a shame it winds up being about the wrong characters. Rather than telling the story of the first two major-league baseball prospects to be signed from India, "Million Dollar Arm" is mostly about the LA superagent (Hamm) who finds them in a nationwide talent contest. And then has to learn valuable lessons about life, love and What Really Matters Most. Hint: it's not money.

BELLE
★★ 1/2
Rated PG for thematic elements, some language and brief smoking images.
There's a lot of fascinating historical fact in this handsomely produced, Merchant Ivory-style period drama about a mixed-race young woman (Mbatha-Raw) occupying a complicated place in the family of an English lord (Wilkinson) famous for judicial decisions damaging to the 18th-century slave trade. Unfortunately, "Belle" ultimately disappoints by developing into a bogus romance, while simultaneously attempting to resolve the issue of slavery. Amma Asante ("A Way of Life") directed the historical drama.

FED UP
Rated PG for thematic elements including smoking images, and brief mild language.
Stars: Michele Simon.
TV journalist Katie Couric executive-produced this investigation into why more Americans continue to gain weight and become seriously ill because of their diet, despite increased awareness of the issue. Stephanie Soechtig ("Tapped") directed the drama.

LEGENDS OF OZ: DOROTHY'S RETURN
★★ 1/2
Rated PG for some scary images and mild peril.
Stars: Lea Michele, Dan Aykroyd, James Belushi, Kelsey Grammer.
If you're going to make a movie with "Oz" in the title, you'd better be prepared to kick in at least a little inspiration. Unfortunately, that's precisely what's missing in this painfully unimaginative musical animated adventure. After briefly touching base in Kansas, Dorothy (Michele) is whisked back to Oz to rescue her friends and save the kingdom from the menacingly manic Jester (Martin Short). Who's more than a little reminiscent of a certain comic-book super villain whose name also begins with a J.
SHOWTIMES

Movie times are effective Friday, May 16, through Thursday, May 22. 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.

Godzilla (PG-13)
Fri, Sat 12:15-3:15; Sun 12:15-3:15-6:15; Mon-Thu 12:15-3:15-6:15-9:15
Godzilla in IMAX 3-D (PG-13) Fri-Sun 10:15-1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15
Million Dollar Arm (PG)
Fri-Sun 3:15-6-9:15

Million Dollar Arm (PG)
Fri-Sun 10:30-3:30-6:30-9:30; Mon-Tue 4:30-7:30; Wed-Thu 6:30-9

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG-13)
Fri-Sun 1:15-4:15-7-10

Legends of OZ: Dorothy's Return (PG)
Fri-Sun 2-5:30-8:45; Mon-Tue 4:30-7:30; Wed-Thu 2-5

Million Dollar Arm (PG)
Fri-Sun 3:30-7-10:30

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG-13)
Fri-Sun 1:15-5-8:15-10

Legends of OZ: Dorothy's Return (PG)
Fri-Sun 12:30-5:30-7:30-10:30

Million Dollar Arm (PG)
Fri-Sun 10:30-3:30-6:30-9:30; Mon-Tue 4:30-7:30; Wed-Thu 6:30-9

Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG-13)
Fri-Sun 10:05-1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05

PICKWICK THEATRE
5 S. Prospect Ave.
Park Ridge
(847) 604-2234
www.pickwicktheatre.com
Contact theater for showtimes.

Million Dollar Arm (PG)
Fri-Sun 2:30-7:30; Mon-Tue 4:30-7:30; Wed-Thu 6:30-9

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG-13)
Fri-Sun 1:15-5-8:15-10:15

Legends of OZ: Dorothy's Return (PG)
Fri-Sun 6-9:30; Mon-Tue 5-7:30; Wed-Thu 6:30-9

Godzilla (PG-13)
Fri-Sun 3:30-7-10:30; Mon-Tue 4:30-7:30; Wed-Thu 6:30-9

ROSEMONT 18
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
Contact theater for showtimes.

REGAL GARDENS STADIUM 1-6
4999 Old Orchard Center
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(847) 673-4037
www.regmovies.com
Contact theater for showtimes.

REGAL GARDENS 7-13
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Sunday Worship 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 a.m.  
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Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry  
Matt Haider, Worship Music  
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9:30 AM Sunday School  
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F: 773.631.0142  
www.norwoodparklutheran.org  
Worship Services  
Sundays  
At 10:00 am  

**Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
6201 W Peterson Ave. Chicago, IL (773) 631-0715  
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Sunday Worship 10:30AM  
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9:00 am High School  
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Death Notices

Rezeau, Marcia Gilmore
71, of Melbourne, FL, passed away surrounded by her family on Tuesday, April 15, 2014 after a brave battle with ovarian cancer.
Marcie (Mike/Nell/Mom) was born August 3, 1942 in Oak Park, IL, to Willis L. and Marjorie S. Gilmore. She grew up in Park Ridge Manor, graduated from Main East High School, and attended William Woods University. In 1965 she married Gary L. Rezeau (CDR USN, Ret.) and started life as a navy wife which included numerous moves over the next twenty plus years. Marcie and her family moved to Melbourne in 1989.
Marcie was known for her beautiful red hair and her determined spirit. Her favorite place was the family cottage, Bonnie Brae, in Door County, WI. She spent many happy times on the porch watching the boats and tankers on sun sparkled Lake Michigan. An animal lover her entire life, Marcie especially loved her golden retrievers.
Marcie selflessly devoted herself to her husband and three children often putting her needs last. She was the central strength to her family and will be missed dearly.
Marcie is survived by her husband, Gary; daughter Michelle; son, Nathan (Aurora); son, Joshua (Christine); brother, Stewart L. Gilmore (Vicki), sister-in-law, Laurel L. Rezeau; six nieces and nephews, several grandnieces and nephews; numerous cousins; and her animal family, Bailey, Lilly, and Amelia. Her sister, Amy P. Gilmore, preceded her in death in 2012.
A private family memorial will be held at a later date in Door County, WI. Memorial donations may be given to the Foundation for Women's Cancer (http://www.foundationforwomenscancer.org/) or the William Childs Hospice House, Palm Bay, FL. (http://www.health-first.org/ways_to_help/online_donating.cfm)
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**HOROSCOPES: MAY 21 — MAY 27**

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) An unexpected development could change the Arian's perspective on a potential investment. Keep an open mind. Ignore the double talk and act only on the facts.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) A surge of support helps you keep your long-standing commitment to colleagues. But others recognize how hard you worked to earn it, and will support you.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Family continues to be the dominant factor, but career matters also take on new importance. You might even be able to combine elements of the two in a productive way.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) A realistic view of a workplace or personal situation helps you deal with it more constructively once you know the truth. Reserve the weekend for someone special.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) As much as you Leos or Leonas might be intrigued by the "sunny" prospects touted for a potential investment, be careful that you don't allow the glare to blind you.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) A friend's problem brings out the Virgo's nurturing nature in full force. However, don't go it alone. Allow others to pitch in and help share the responsibilities.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A business decision might need to be put off until a colleague's personal matter is resolved. Use this time to work on another business matter.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 22) Relationships (personal or professional) might appear to be stalled because of details that keep cropping up and that need tending to. Be patient.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) A promotion could cause resentment among envious colleagues. But others recognize how hard you worked to earn it, and will support you.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) A delicate personal matter needs both your wisdom and your warmth. Expect some setbacks, but stay with it. The outcome will justify your efforts.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Resist the temptation to cut corners just because time is short. Best to move ahead step by step so you don't overlook anything that might create complications.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Use the goodwill you've earned with that well-received project to pitch your ideas for a new project. Expect some tough competition from an unlikely source.
## Dealer Directory

Scan a QR code to see that dealer's entire used-vehicle inventory.

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- **Bill Jacobs BMW**
  - 2495 Aurora Ave.
  - Naperville, IL 60540
  - 855-264-1078

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- **Webb Chevrolet**
  - 3650 S. Cicero Ave.
  - Oak Lawn, IL 60453
  - 855-857-4041
- **Webb Chevrolet Plainfield**
  - 16404 S. Lincoln Highway
  - Plainfield, IL 60586
  - 888-927-3761

**CHRYSLER**
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  - Naperville, IL 60540
  - 855-264-1078

**FORD**
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  - Aurora, IL 60504
  - 855-289-1448
- **Weston Avenue Nissan**
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  - Chicago, IL 60636
  - 877-817-7341

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  - 629 Joliet St.
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**MINI**
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**NISSAN**
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  - Downers Grove, IL 60515
  - 855-253-1243

**SUBARU**
- **Bill Jacobs Subaru**
  - 2525 W. Jefferson St.
  - Joliet, IL 60435
  - 855-250-4119

**TOYOTA**
- **Lombard Toyota**
  - 725 W. Roosevelt Road
  - Lombard, IL 60148
  - 877-870-3816

**VOLKSWAGEN**
- **Bill Jacobs Volkswagen**
  - 221 Aurora Ave.
  - Naperville, IL 60540
  - 855-685-5348

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## Car Story

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

### My 1973 Buick Riviera Boattail

By Richard Nopar of Wilmette

November 2013, I tracked down the designer of my pride and joy: my Buick Riviera Boattail.

As an 83-year-old I must tell you that I am a big fan of yours. Intrigued? When the Buick Boattail came out in the early 70s, I simply fell in love with the car. In my mind every other car was dull, and your Riviera reeled me in. It became my dream car!

When I was younger and with a growing family, I couldn't afford to buy one, but in 1990 I followed a '73 into a car wash. It was gleaming and in great shape, so I complimented the owner on his beautiful automobile. He surprised me and said, "I'm going to sell it," and I said spontaneously, "I'm going to buy it." And I did! We agreed to a price of $6,750, and I have loved driving it since.

You would have been pleased to know the people always give me a "thumbs up" while driving it, but when parked, it attracts all kinds of people who want to compliment the car and talk about it. It draws attention like a magnet. It's been fun, and I'm still the proud owner.

My own career was that of a portrait photographer, so you may say I have a good appreciation for good design, hence this letter to you. My curiosity led me to find out who was responsible for the creation of this automobile, and the Internet led me to you. So, Jerry, thank you for the pleasure that you've given me to be able to drive and enjoy my '73 Buick Riviera Boattail. It has been a great continuing experience. Once again, I thank you!

Sincerely,
Dick Nopar

And here was his response:

Dear Mr. Nopar,

Nothing is more enjoyable in my retirement than to receive letters like yours, especially one from a person with good eyes!

That car was done early in my career and was sheer fun, which is rare in a corporation the size of GM.

Of course I also enjoyed the excellent shot of the car. It does look to have been kept in great shape.

Out here in Southern California they're always looking for pristine models to use in films! Thanks so much for taking the time to write. It means a lot.

Wishing you continued enjoyment.

All the best,
Jerry H.
Nissan ranks first in sales

In the month of February, Niles residents opted to purchase Nissan vehicles more often than any other auto brand. Nissan topped the sales charts with 16 of the 69 total sales (all car brands) to Niles residents. The breakdown of the 16 total Nissan sales was 14 new and two used over the course of the month.

Honda, which accounted for a total of nine sales, was the second most popular car brand sold to Niles residents in February. The breakdown of the nine total Honda purchases in February was seven pre-owned vehicles and two new vehicles. Toyota took third place on the list of most popular auto brands, totaling eight sales — two used and six new.

All told, Niles residents bought 69 cars and trucks in the month of February (all brands) — 33 new vehicles and 36 used vehicles. Nissan was the most popular brand purchased new (14 purchases) in the month. Toyota and Chevrolet came in second and third, respectively, in the new car sales category, with six and four sales.

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Honda led the way in the used sales category with seven total sales in the month. Dodge and Ford also made a good showing in pre-owned sales, with three sales each.

In February, 67 percent of purchases by Niles residents came through a local dealer, while 33 percent were private party transactions. The top dealership selling to Niles residents in February was Star Nissan with 12 total sales, followed by Bredemann Toyota, Jennings Chevrolet and Castle Honda.
Blockbuster or flop? The Movie Review section has the scoop.

Just one more reason to get up & go

Your guide to the weekend and beyond Every Thursday

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Scores | Game Stories | Player Profiles | Video Highlights | And More!

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 highschoo!cubene\ews.com or click “SPORTS” on your local newspaper site.
Local company designs Chicago Sports Museum

Luci Creative devised exhibits that allow fans to see how they compare to local legends

BY MIKE CHAMERNIK
For Sun-Times Media, @MikeChamernik

With a vast amount of jerseys, sports equipment, newspaper clippings and championship rings on display behind glass, the Chicago Sports Museum is in some ways a traditional museum.

Yet, the Chicago Sports Museum also has several interactive exhibits that allow visitors to see how they compare with their favorite Chicago sports figures. Museum goers can shoot virtual jump shots and hit virtual slap shots; compare their hand sizes and vertical leaps to various athletes; and even sit in an announcers' booth and imitate their favorite sportscasters.

The museum, which opened last month and is located at Water Tower Place, is owned by the Harry Caray Restaurant Group and the memorabilia comes from its CEO, Grant DePorter. A Lincolnwood-based creative design agency, Luci Creative, worked with DePorter to bring his idea of an interactive museum to life.

"He came to us with all of these stories that he wanted to share with this museum," Luci Creative senior designer and strategist AJ Goehle said. "We helped him put a strategy together and plan the museum space out to show him how his story should fall into place into a cohesive story."

Luci Creative is a branch of Lincolnwood's Ravenswood Studio — which designs and fabricates things like opera sets, restaurants and tradeshow booths — and was opened in 2011. Luci Creative's team of nine full-time employees has created projects for a variety of museums — from the John Deere Tractor and Engine Museum in Waterloo, Iowa, to the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago — and helped create pretty much everything in the Chicago Sports Museum.

The company was involved with the museum's layout, designs, and graphics for the artifact displays as well as the interactive exhibits, such as the caliper that measures the wingspan of museum guests. Luci Creative worked with Chicago software company Next/Now to make the virtual reality games.

Everything was exclusively made for the museum.

The process to make an exhibit, from idea to opening, takes about seven months. After the Luci team brainstorms ideas, they draw them up and model them in 3D, then work with engineers and draftsmen on the Ravenswood Studio team to figure out how to build them. Sometimes a prototype is created, and the client comes in and approves it. Finally, the actual exhibit is built.

"What we do here isn't like a catalog that you order something from," Goehle said. "Everything here is a custom, one-of-a-kind thing that we're designing and then we're building for clients because that's the right thing for the project."

The novel, interactive exhibits have helped the Chicago Sports Museum stand out among other local museums. Chicago's Emily Seto, a blogger and sports fan, went to the Chicago Sports Museum a few weeks ago with her husband. She enjoyed the museum and said that the exhibits made her realize how exceptional professionals — who make a 40-inch vertical leap and calling a live baseball game look easy — are.

"We've got some really amazing museums in Chicago," Seto said. "However, the vast majority of what you'll see there is contained in display cases, where you can't touch anything. The Chicago Sports Museum was unique in that it is very interactive and you can actually participate hands-on in a lot of the exhibits."
Concklin pitches in at Washington and Lee

BY NICK BULLOCK
For Sun-Times Media, @HSCNewsNorth

Tom Concklin, who played high school baseball at Hinsdale Central, turned in an impressive freshman season at Washington and Lee in Lexington, Virginia. He made 12 appearances, including seven starts, had a 3-2 record and led Generals starting pitchers with a 2.02 ERA. Concklin was second on the team with 49 innings pitched and tied for second with 24 strikeouts.

Washington and Lee finished 18-13, including 11-9 in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference.

New Trier alumnus Fitz Bowen, a freshman on the Middlebury College men's golf team, took first place at the New England Small College Athletic Conference Championship April 26-27 at the Ralph Myhre Golf Course in Middlebury, Vermont. Middlebury won the team title.

Bowen, a Kenilworth native, finished with a two-day total of 149, four strokes ahead of the second-place finisher.

Graham Kenter, also from New Trier, and James Wing, who went to Lyons, also are on the team, but neither competed in the event.

Former Highland Park runner Megan Mocogni ran a personal-best time of 5 minutes, 8.10 seconds in the women's 1,500 meters to lead the University of Illinois Track Club to a first-place finish in the National Intercollegiate Running Club Association Track and Field Championships April 6 in Bloomington, Indiana.

Claire Prosperi, a former Glenbrook North star, closed out a successful four-year career on the Trinity College softball team. The senior designated player finished her final season with a .367 batting average, a .436 on-base percentage and a .449 slugging percentage.

Erin Roos, a senior on the Brown women's lacrosse team after a high school career at New Trier, earned first-team all-Ivy League honors. A Wilmette native, Roos anchored a defense that surrendered only 8.67 goals per game this season.

Roos, who was second-team all-Ivy last season, holds the Bears' career record with 88 caused turnovers. She ranked second in the Ivy League this season with 30 caused turnovers while starting in all of the Bears' 15 games. Janie Gion, also from New Trier, was third on the Brown team in points with 16 goals and 12 assists. A junior from Northfield, Gion started all 15 games and turned in a 61.5 shot percentage and a 76.9 shots-on-goal percentage.

Have a suggestion for the College Roundup? Email Nick Bullock at bullockpioneerpress@gmail.com.
Jamiyankhuu doesn’t let injury slow him down

Niles North’s Wong rebounds, advances to state in parallel bars

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
For Sun-Times Media @VanDrilSports

Nine days after winning its first CSL championship since 1991, the Niles West boys gymnastics program ended a 28-year drought and qualified for the state meet as a team.

The Wolves scored 148.40 points Friday at the Lyons Sectional, which was the state’s fifth-best team score and good for an at-large state berth.

They are scheduled to compete at the state final Friday at Hinsdale Central.

The Wolves couldn’t reach the level they’ve attained without standout Dalai Jamiyankhuu. The sophomore has been one of the state’s best all-rounders the last two seasons and he’s fought through a fracture in his right wrist — it’s a result of overuse, he said — over the last month.

“I wanted to finish my season because next year, I might not be able to do high school, so this year I really wanted to enjoy it with my teammates and have fun,” Jamiyankhuu said.

He added that his time is spread very thin between high school gymnastics, club gymnastics and schoolwork during the spring.

Jamiyankhuu had the state’s fourth-best all-around score (53.4) at the sectional. He has the potential to be all-state in the all-around and make the state finals (top 10 after prelims) in all six individual events. Jamiyankhuu’s best chance at a state championship appears to be on pommel horse, an event on which he scored a state-high 9.1 at the sectional.

His excellence on that event is especially remarkable given that all of his weight is on his hands and wrists during his pommel horse routine.

“He’s a tough kid and he wants it for himself and he wants it for the team,” Niles West coach Adrian Batista said.

Niles West also features a strong senior class. Eight seniors — Paul Dugo, Harris Khan, Timmy La, David Nipas, Jeremy Sands, Ryan Tang, David Thai and Andy Tran — qualified for state as an individual in at least one event. Junior Jordan Goldberg, who advanced on vault and parallel bars, has also been a key contributor.

Niles North

Vikings senior Scott Wong qualified for the state meet on pommel horse as a sophomore and junior, yet Wong was in serious jeopardy of not making state at the conclusion of his pommel horse routine at the Lyons Sectional.

Wong fell off the pommel horse once and received a 7.1 from the judges. It was a letdown, Wong said after the event, but Niles North coach Rick Meyer was in his ear as the Wolves prepared to compete on parallel bars.

“My coach was like, ‘Just block it [out]. Forget about it. You have [parallel] bars next, you can do it,’” Wong said. “I hit my [parallel] bars routine.”

Wong earned an 8.15 on parallel bars to finish 12th at the sectional.

He secured an at-large berth on parallel bars by .2 points and missed qualifying on pommel horse.

Wong will be joined at the state Saturday if he can land it cleanly.

Maine East

Maine East didn’t have anybody qualify for state this year, but sophomore Ritchel Balthazar appears to have the Blue Demons’ best chance of advancing in the next two years.

Balthazar was 10th out of 14 all-arounders with a 54.8 at the Lyons Sectional this year. He had solid scores on still rings (7.0) and vault (8.2).

“We’re looking forward to big things from him next year,” Maine East coach Erick Noriega said.

“We’re planning on him to join some camps and work with us in the off-season.”

Evanston

Junior Ben Morton emerged as Evanston’s top all-arounder this year, but he considers gymnastics his secondary sport. Morton is a year-round wrestler and he represented the Wildkits wrestling team at the Class 3A sectional tournament at 132 pounds this season.

“I have a good time [with gymnastics] and I like my team and it helps my core strength and my upper-body strength,” Morton said when asked why he has continued doing gymnastics.

Morton finished 11th out of 14 in the all-around at the Lyons Sectional with a 30.6.

Juggling wrestling and gymnastics can be very hard, given that investing a great deal of time is key to learning, refining and perfecting new moves and skills in wrestling and gymnastics.

“I enjoy gymnastics and I enjoy [being] competitive, but I’m having trouble balancing both sports in the off-season and getting better and better at each sport,” Morton said. “It’s kind of difficult for me.”
Persistence keeps struggling Blue Demons’ heads high

By Mike Chamerinik
For Sun-Times Media, @MikeChamerinik

PARK RIDGE — The Maine East girls soccer team showed determination and grit even as it trailed Highland Park 7-0 in the shortened second half of their matchup.

Two of the Blue Demons’ top players, Jackie Contreras and Arianna Cruz, each registered shots on goal on the May 6 game, trying to make up for a first half in which the Blue Demons managed only one shot.

Maine East could not make up the deficit, but the second-half effort showed the players “have a lot of heart,” coach Julie Dickinson said. “No matter what the score is, they’re going to play until the last minute and keep trying.”

Contreras and Cruz, both juniors, embody that spirit of persistence. Contreras is a speedy sweeper who can defend some of the toughest players in the state.

Cruz, meanwhile, is a forward with three goals.

Maine East girls soccer team showed determination and grit even as it trailed Highland Park 7-0 in the shortened second half of their matchup.

“Keep your head up,” Cruz said. “Even if they score a goal you can’t keep your head down, because then they’ll know to keep going. You got to keep playing.”

The Blue Demons are moving in the right direction, though, thanks to club play. Athletes in the CSL gain experience through high-level soccer in the offseason, and Maine East has 11 players involved in club soccer.

Contreras is among the Blue Demons who play for the local club, Olympiacos.

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“The amount that we’ve been able to grow, you can see it,” Contreras said, adding that the team is trapping and passing better and making smarter plays.

“If you can continue to develop and continue to become leaders, then it could be nice things for them next year,” Dickinson said. “We have 10 seniors graduating so we have a lot of holes to fill, so hopefully these two can be the start of that and bring the other girls up with them.”

BOYS TENNIS NOTEBOOK

Maine South trio scores big

Loyola’s split squad finishes second, host Niles North comes in third

By Mike Chamerinik
For Sun-Times Media, @MikeChamerinik

SKOKIE — Maine South’s boys tennis team won Saturday’s quad tournament at Niles North.

The event was a series of team duals with teams comprised of two singles players and two doubles teams. Schools earned a point for each game won and two points for winning the third set. The Hawks finished with 120 points, and three of their best singles players combined for 72 points.

Senior Peter Bruno and juniors Nick Salgia and Dominik Spalinski each earned 24 points over two matches.

Bruno played strong in two matches at No. 1 singles, beating Vernon Hills’ Harsha Namburi 6-1, 6-1 and Loyola’s Andy Hovanecek 6-0, 6-3.

“Those three are our core players who have kept us going all year,” Maine South coach Jerry Smith said.

Smith said the trio has been consistently good this year and that they take advantage of opponents’ mistakes.

“They’re very smart on the court,” Smith said. “They move the ball well, they move their opponents well, and they compete. They really know how to compete. They make us all better as a team, for sure.”

Loyola

The Ramblers finished second on Saturday with 118 points despite playing with a disadvantage — part of their varsity team was in Naperville for the Naper Valley Invite, a two-day, 16-team tournament.

The Ramblers used with junior Alex Davis to beat Vernon Hills’ Jae Park and Eric Zhang 6-0, 6-2 and Maine South’s Peter Danke and Brian Johnson 6-4, 6-2.

Senior Greg Kulis won a No. 2 singles match against Niles North’s Frank Lally 7-5, 6-4.

“It was very good,” coach Bill Kearns said. “It gave everybody a chance to play.”

The No. 1 doubles team of seniors Dan O’Connor and Matt Cheung won two of their three matches, dropping its first match to Niles North in a tiebreaker but beating Vernon Hills’ Joe Park and Eric Zhang 6-0, 6-2 and Maine South’s Peter Danke and Brian Johnson 6-4, 6-2.

Niles North

In one of the more thrilling matches of the day, Niles North senior Danny Wolf beat Maine South’s Salgia 3-6, 7-6, 12-10 in a second-round No. 1 singles match.

Wolf got a little vengeance — he lost to Salgia 6-1, 6-3 a few weeks prior, but played better this time around.

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EVENING THE SCORE

Wolf avenge loss at Niles North boys tennis invite

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