Maine East grads have one last party before getting diplomas | PAGE 14
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MORTON GROVE

New autopsy suggests foul play in 19-year-old's death

BY PAM DEFIGLIO
For Sun-Times Media

A new independently-performed autopsy is raising new questions in the death of a 19-year-old Morton Grove resident, Pravin Varughese, whose body was found in a wooded area near Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, where he attended school, in February.

The original autopsy, performed by the downstate Jackson County coroner's office, concluded he died of hypothermia, with no indications of trauma, and Carbondale police said they did not suspect foul play.

However, an independent autopsy conducted by Dr. Ben Margolis, of the Autopsy Center of Chicago, indicates that Varughese died as a result of being hit.

"The underlying cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head," said Margolis, an autopsy pathologist.

He added it appeared Varughese was injured by another person, due to a punch mark on his left side and a defensive wound on his right arm, indicating he was trying to defend himself in a fight. There were many additional marks on the body.

Margolis made a distinction between the underlying cause of death, which he described as the thing without which the person would still be alive, and the immediate cause of death. For example, he said, a car accident might be the underlying cause of death because it gave a person pneumonia, with pneumonia being the immediate cause of death.

Margolis said he had not made a determination on the immediate cause of Varughese's death, and would want to see police reports and documentation.

However, he said Varughese may have been alive for about a day after he was injured. He determined that because the defensive wound on Varughese's arm had started the healing process.

"It's not clear whether the head injuries caused death or whether they incapacitated him and led to hypothermia, which killed him," said Margolis. He spent four to five hour on the autopsy, taking photographs and making incisions in what he described as a painstaking process.

Michael Carr, Jackson County district attorney, said Monday the case was under consideration by his office.

"It's a death investigation. It's a serious matter," he said. "We want to examine every aspect of it. We don't want to comment prematurely."

Carbondale Police Chief Jody O'Guinn did not return a call seeking comment on whether police would act on the new autopsy information.

Charles Stegmeyer, a Belleville attorney hired by Pravin's mother, Lovely Varughese of Morton Grove, blamed Carbondale police for allowing the chief witness to walk away on the night Pravin Varughese disappeared. He called the police department's actions "inexplicable."

"The Chicago or St. Louis police departments would never have let this happen," Stegmeyer said.

That witness allegedly told police that on Feb. 12, the night Pravin Varughese disappeared, he gave Varughese a ride after Varughese left a party. He allegedly told police that the two had an altercation and Varughese fled into the woods. Varughese's body was found Feb. 18.

The new autopsy happened after Lovely Varughese got a referral to Margolis from funeral director at Colonial Wojciechowski Funeral Home in Niles, which handled the burial. Brad Rushton, a manager at the funeral home, said Mrs. Varughese was distraught at her son's unexpected passing, and wanted more information about how it happened.

"It's not unusual for us to suggest a second autopsy or even a third autopsy," he said.

Lovely Varughese, who is a nurse, said she is hoping for an investigation into whether her son's death may have been caused by human hands rather than freezing temperatures.

"It's really hard, and we're not getting anywhere," she said.

"We're facing more questions than answers."

Pravin M. Varughese / photo from Carbondale police

MORTON GROVE

Crash sends car into garage, two elderly women to hospital

BY NATALE HAYES
For Sun-Times Media | @NatHayReporter

An accident involving a residential garage sent two women to the hospital with serious injuries after their cars collided in Morton Grove Wednesday.

The crash occurred at the intersection of Shermer Road and Greenwood Street around 1:15 p.m., according to Paul Yaras, commander at the Morton Grove Police Department.

An 84-year-old Niles resident was cited after she failed to yield at the intersection while driving on Greenwood Street.

When she entered the intersection, she was broadsided by a vehicle traveling northbound on Shermer Road that was being driven by an unidentified 71-year-old driver from Skokie, Yaras said.

"Upon impact, the eastbound car struck a garage on the corner property at Shermer and Greenwood while the car travelling northbound struck a light pole," Yaras said.

Both drivers were transported to Glenbrook Hospital with non-life threatening but serious injuries, he said.

No other passengers were riding in the vehicles at the time of the crash.

The Niles woman was the only driver to be cited in the collision.
A coyote visits a school in Northbrook in February.

Police warn residents after rise in coyote sightings

BY NATALE HAYES
For Sun-Times Media | @NatHayReporter

An increase in coyote sightings in the Morton Grove area has police warning residents to protect small pets by keeping them indoors or on short leashes.

Police said a coyote den recently found in a residential area of Morton Grove has contributed to the increase in sightings.

Similar to a bird’s nest, a coyote den is a temporary location for adult coyotes to nurse their offspring before they abandon the spot for a new hideout.

Most of the reports of coyote sightings have come from an area bordering by Oakton Street to the south, Gross Point Road to the west and the village of Skokie to the north and east, according to Paul Yaras, spokesman for the Morton Grove Police Department.

An animal control worker spotted the coyote den last week, but the clan of coyotes has since moved to a new, unknown location in that general area, Yaras said.

“We have a lot of sightings in that one area,” Yaras said. “Humans are higher on the food chain [than coyotes] but when you have smaller dogs like Pomeranians or Shih Tzus, it gets to be a problem.”

Although coyotes don’t typically pose a threat to humans, the wild animals are known for snatching small dogs, cats, rabbits and possums.

In February, a Yorkshire terrier that had been let out into the backyard was snatched by a coyote roaming in east-central Glenview near Roosevelt Avenue and Pinehurst Drive.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources estimates there are more than 30,000 coyotes in Illinois. They usually live in wooded areas but often roam into residential neighborhoods.

“They like big overgrown bushes and dense forest-like areas,” Yaras said. “But the dens can be anywhere — even under porches.”

So far, there have been no reports of coyotes attacking pets in Morton Grove this year, but police are reminding residents to take precautions.

Pets should be kept on short leashes that don’t allow dogs to wander too far, and pets should never be left unattended outdoors.

In addition, pet food should be brought inside at night so that leftovers don’t attract coyotes, and pet owners should immediately pick their dog up if a coyote is spotted nearby.

A press release issued by the Morton Grove Police Department reminds residents not to feed coyotes or approach coyote pups or coyote dens.

Coyote sightings can be reported to Morton Grove’s animal control department at 847-470-5200.

“Coyotes are pretty regular visitors,” Yaras said. “We want to minimize the chances for contact between humans and pets.”
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Village bans gun sales in commercial areas

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
For Sun-Times Media | @istudenkov

The Niles Board of Trustees has approved a resolution banning indoor firing ranges and the sale and trade of handguns from the village's business district, limiting them to manufacturing districts.

When it was presented to the board, the ordinance only restricted firing ranges to the manufacturing districts. But after a number of trustees expressed concern that the current municipal code's language was too broad, the ordinance was amended to include the handguns ban. The ordinance won't affect concealed-carry teaching centers such as the one approved earlier during the same meeting.

Before the meeting, Niles' municipal code allowed businesses that sold, traded and repaired firearms, as well as businesses that had indoor firing ranges, to operate in village's commercial corridor under a special use permit. There was only one business that fell under the scope of the ordinance — the Dick's Sporting Goods location at the Village Crossing shopping plaza, which sells hunting rifles.

A few weeks earlier, Jasen Patel, of Chicago, petitioned the village to allow gun shops with firing ranges as a special use in the manufacturing district. He wanted to open a gun shop with an indoor firing range at 6143 West Howard St. The space is located in the heart of Niles' main industrial district, across the street from Hall's party rentals company.

For Sun-Times Media

Gunn-training school approved by Niles Village Board

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
For Sun-Times Media | @istudenkov

The Niles Village Board has OK'd plans for a gun-training center to open in the village, but actual firearms won't be used at the facility.

The board approved a special use permit Tuesday night that would allow the concealed carry training center to open at 7609 Milwaukee Ave., near the Howard Street intersection.

Marc Jens, a retired Cook County Sheriff's officer, will be running the school with his wife, Connie. The center will provide the firearms training required for anyone who applies for a concealed carry permit in Illinois.

While the trustees had some concerns, the board ultimately approved the special use permit 5-1, with Trustee Rosemary Palicki casting the sole "no" vote.

As part of the concealed carry law in Illinois, applicants must complete a 16-hour firearms training course taught by an authorized instructor. Since the law was passed last year, a number of concealed carry training centers have opened in Chicago area, but this would be the first school in Niles.

Jens applied for the permission to open the school in March of last year. He already had the experience in firearms training, teaching at the Cook County Sheriff's Police Training Academy for ten years. His application was approved unanimously by the Niles Plan Commission earlier in May.

During the board meeting, Jens explained that actual firearms wouldn't be allowed in the training area; instead, students will use training pistols. While the models will have slides and magazines, those parts are only there to give students a feel for what the actual weapons are like.

"It can't be loaded [with actual bullets] in any way, shape or form," emphasized Jens.

That said, people with valid concealed carry permits will be able to bring their guns with them inside the school as long as they don't enter the training area.

"If they aren't coming in for training, I have no issue with that," Jens explained.

He said that he didn't want people who, for example, wanted to stop by his office to chat, to have to leave their guns in their cars, where they might get stolen.

Jens assured the trustees that he takes the safety and the legal restrictions very seriously.

"I've been doing this for a long time, and I don't compromise the safety of the regulations for any reason," he said.

When asked whether he intends to sell anything from the school, Jens indicated that he eventually plans to sell practice pistols and software to allow students to practice at home.

Palicki said that, while she wasn't against the training center per se, she was worried about it operating in the village's main commercial corridor. People driving through, she argued, might see the school's signs and get the wrong idea.

"I am wondering if we'd be branding ourselves as having gun stores in our main street," Palicki said. "I think [the school] belongs in Niles, and I think it belongs in the industrial park."

She proposed an amendment to require the school to the manufacturing district, but it was defeated. In response to Palicki's concerns, Mayor Andrew Przybylo asked Jens if the school would have any signage with the word "guns."

"It will say 'Concealed Safety Carry for Personal Defense,'" said Jens.

"That helps, thank you," responded Przybylo.

After the board voted to approve the school, Jens invited the trustees to see it for themselves once it opens.

"I invite the board to come to the training center at no charge and monitor the classes, so that you'll feel more comfortable about it," he said.
Police: Robbers followed stripper for 13 miles

Four people charged in the May 15 robbery of a stripper in Niles followed the woman for 13 miles across several suburbs, authorities say.

According to police reports obtained by Pioneer Press, the four suspects were gathered at Scores, a Stone Park strip club, when a plan was formed to rob a random female stripper as she left the establishment.

A fifth person, who was not charged, told police that the group spotted a woman entering a black Mercedes Benz in the parking lot of the club and followed her all the way to a Niles Dunkin Donuts shop and then to her home.

As the 34-year-old woman exited her garage on the 9000 block of Churchill Circle around 2:30 a.m., two of the men — identified by police as Julian Cortez, 21, of Berwyn, and Peter Bloodgood, 22, of Berwyn — approached, pointed handguns at her and demanded her purse, police said.

The victim, who said she works as a make-up artist at Scores, told police that she dropped to her knees and advised the men to take what they wanted. The men reportedly grabbed the woman's designer tote bag, containing about $1,500 in cash, and a black make-up bag before running from the scene.

Niles police said the suspects' silver 2004 Lincoln Navigator was spotted by a Cook County Sheriff's Police officer about 10 minutes later on Northwest Highway near Central Avenue in Chicago where Cortez and Angelo Rodriguez, 20, of Berwyn, allegedly jumped out of the vehicle and ran off. They were later taken into custody in Chicago following an investigation.

Still inside the Navigator were Bloodgood, Mercedes Alvarez, 22, of Chicago; and the 24-year-old driver, who was not charged, police said.

That man, according to the police report, said he had not wanted to take part in the robbery and wanted to cooperate with authorities, though he had voluntarily met with the Cortez, Rodriguez, Alvarez and Bloodgood earlier that night and reportedly tried to convince them to rob a drug dealer instead of a club dancer, police said.

The victim, who said she works as a make-up artist at Scores, told police that she had driven home from Stone Park taking I-294 and noticed that she was being followed after she stopped for coffee at the Dunkin' Donuts at 7039 W. Dempster St. She identified Cortez and Bloodgood as the men who had robbed her through two physical line-ups and identified the Lincoln Navigator that was stopped by Cook County Sheriff's Police as the vehicle she had seen following her, Niles police said.

All four suspects were felony charged with armed robbery and have criminal histories, according to police. Bloodgood, Cortez and Rodriguez are being held without bond at Cook County Jail.

According to police, Alvarez initially told officers that she was in the SUV with Bloodgood and the driver when they were forced at gunpoint to give two men they did not know a ride. She also denied knowledge of the robbery, but Rodriguez told police that Alvarez, who works as a stripper at another Stone Park club, planned the crime because she was aware of how much money strippers earn, police said.

Two guns recovered from the vehicle had been reported stolen in a home burglary in Brookfield, according to police.

The victim told police that she had driven home from Stone Park taking I-294 and noticed that she was being followed after she stopped for coffee at the Dunkin' Donuts at 7039 W. Dempster St. She identified Cortez and Bloodgood as the men who had robbed her through two physical line-ups and identified the Lincoln Navigator that was stopped by Cook County Sheriff's Police as the vehicle she had seen following her, Niles police said.

All four suspects were felony charged with armed robbery and have criminal histories, according to police. Bloodgood, Cortez and Rodriguez are being held without bond at Cook County Jail.
POLICE BLOTTER

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

NILES

DUI

Israel Lopez-Robles, age not given, of 2315 Wright, North Chicago, was charged with aggravated driving under the influence and illegal transportation of open alcohol on May 24. Police stopped Lopez-Robles’ vehicle at Milwaukee and Kedzie Avenues at 2:10 a.m. after he was reportedly seen committing several traffic violations. Police said his license was also revoked and he had no insurance. He has a June 24 court date.

ORDER OF PROTECTION

Kejuan Wells, 23, whose last known address was 7322 Crain St., Niles, was charged with violating an order of protection on May 23. According to police, a 19-year-old resident of the Crain Street apartment called 911 to report that, while she was not home, Wells had gained access to the residence. Police said Wells had an active order of protection against him, filed by the woman who had called police, though she initially did not want him arrested. Court information was not available.

RETAIL THEFT

Cathy Ippolito, 50, of 1825 Parkside Drive, Park Ridge, was charged with felony retail theft on May 24 after she allegedly stole a portable DVD player and other merchandise, all valued at $137, from a store on the 8500 block of Golf Road. Police said Ippolito had a prior retail theft conviction in 2011. She has a June 24 court date.

Donald Martello, 53, of 8609 Milwaukee Ave., Niles, was charged with driving under the influence on May 24 after he was stopped for reportedly speeding on the 7200 block of Milwaukee Avenue at 1:34 a.m. He has a June 24 court date.

MORTON GROVE

DRUGS

Munkherdene Nyamsuren, 25, of Skokie, was charged with driving on a suspended license and possession of cannabis after a traffic stop on Dempster Street and Prospect Avenue May 24. Police said Nyamsuren was stopped for traffic violations and also had an active arrest warrant out of DuPage County. A search of the vehicle allegedly yielded marijuana, police said. A court date is scheduled for June 11.

Joel Cervantes, 26, of Chicago, was charged with possession of cannabis after he was arrested on Dempster Street and Austin Avenue in Morton Grove May 25. Police said Cervantes was pulled over for a traffic violation. He is scheduled to appear in court June 11.

Ross Brown, 19, of Wilmette, was charged with possession of marijuana after he was arrested on Waukegan Road and Dempster Street May 28. Police said he was stopped for a traffic violation. He is scheduled to appear in court July 15.

THEFT

A woman told police that her wallet, containing about $250 in cash and a credit card, was stolen on the afternoon of May 25 while she stopped at Home Depot, 901 Civic Center Drive. The woman reportedly placed the wallet on a shelf while she reached for a box of screws and minutes later realized it was missing, police said.

A 31-year-old Berwyn man rented a 2013 Nissan Altima from an auto rental company on March 21 and never returned the vehicle, police said. Attempts to contact him were unsuccessful and the credit card he had provided the company was canceled, police said.

A wallet was stolen from a purse on May 24 after it was left behind briefly in a fitting room of a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center.

BATTERY

A man punched another man in the face while they were dining at a restaurant on the 9100 block of Golf Road at 2:15 a.m., May 25, police said. Two other diners reportedly intervened and broke up the fight, but another man then argued with the victim before pushing him, police said. Both suspects reportedly left the restaurant before police officers arrived. Police said the victim was uncooperative and would not provide information about the suspects.

DISPUTE

Police on the evening of May 23 responded to a restaurant on the 7000 block of Dempster Street after a boss and employee reportedly became involved in a dispute about work responsibilities. According to police, the employee was asked to clean the exterior of the business, but she refused. Police said the woman’s boss became frightened by the employee’s actions because she became “animated with her words and body language” and had been known to allegedly drink alcohol while working. The employee left the restaurant prior to the arrival of police.

Police were called to a home on the 8800 block of Wisner Street on the night of May 24 after a 19-year-old man and his father reportedly became involved in an argument over the type of music the teen was listening to. The teen then allegedly threw a fan across the room and left the residence, police said. The family requested assistance from Niles Family Services, according to police.
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Maine East wraps up year with Senior Send-Off

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
johnson@pioneerlocal.com | @Jen_Pioneer

The school year is winding down and for some seniors at Maine East High School, that meant breaking out the confetti and silly string.

Seniors wrapped up their last Friday of high school by attending the Senior Send-Off assembly held in their honor—and spraying some of their classmates with colorful, sticky string.

The cans were prompted by school security, but the celebratory spirit couldn’t be capped. Students cheered loudly, sang and danced to music played for a faculty dance-off, and hugged classmates as the assembly—and their time at Maine East—drew to a close.

The Senior Send-Off is an annual tradition where students who took top honors during the earlier Senior Awards Night are recognized in front of their peers and the year’s retiring faculty are announced, teacher Fran Scott said.

One of these retirees, Director of Student Personnel Services and Varsity Soccer Coach Vic DiPrizio, made the crowd go wild when he walked across the field house floor with an armful of flowers and, later, joined Dean Mike Bender and science teacher Peter Przekota in a dance competition, covering everything from the "Macarena" to the "Electric Slide."

"I'll miss it. It's been a fun time," said DiPrizio, who has taught and coached at Maine East for 30 years.

DiPrizio is known for dressing up as various characters to entertain the students during all-school assemblies.

"I've been the [Maine East mascot] demon, I've been Santa Claus, I've been other team mascots like the Trevian and an Indian, I've been a mermaid, Braveheart and Tom Cruise," he said.

Other Maine East retirees— who didn’t hit the dance floor with DiPrizio, but were recognized nonetheless— included teacher assistants Cori Butler, Hilda Cordero and Pratibha Parikh and Career Technical Education teacher Joanne Jonikas.

Other assembly events that kept the crowd roaring included dance performances by Maine East Orchesis and Demon Squad, music from the Maine East Marching Band and rapping by students Matt Dumay and Mike Petillo.

Several seniors were recognized for their academic achievements, including Maine East’s top honor, the Senior Department Awards. This year’s award winners, chosen for their academic excellence by school faculty, include David Schnobrich, applied technology; Patrick Zajac, business education; Cynthia Garcia, family consumer sciences; Isabelle Trier, English and social science; Pamela Mejia, English language learning; Marija Djeric, foreign language; Peyton Johnson, art; Daniel Choi, music; Adrian Delgado, speech arts; Angelo Matni, math and physical education; and Tom Joseph, science.

These awards were handed out during the school’s Senior Honors Program on May 28.

The Class of 2014 also includes five students who are the school’s first graduates of the Schuler Scholar Program. The program, introduced at Maine East in 2010, prepares a select group of students to attend some of the country’s most prestigious colleges and universities.

Maine East graduates who completed the Schuler Scholar Program are John Collantes, attending Bates College; Judith Glikberg, attending Occidental College; Batsmanai Ontogtokh, attending Yale University; Syed Matin, attending Johns Hopkins University; and Daniel Choi, attending Brandeis University.

This week, Maine East seniors finish off their final exams, attend the Senior Breakfast at Victoria Beau Jolie in Schiller Park and Senior Prom at the Hilton of Northbrook before receiving their diplomas during June 9 graduation ceremonies at the Rosemont Theatre.
Hynes School teachers work out to fight cancer

BY NATALIE HAYES
For Sun-Times Media | @NatHayReporter

The gym at Hynes Elementary School was filled with the rocking beats of Zumba Wednesday afternoon as a group of teachers got their sweat on after school for a good cause.

A “pink party” to raise awareness and donations for breast cancer research featured an hour-long Zumba class and pink drinks and treats for teachers who spent the afternoon of May 28 at the event, which was sponsored by the school’s wellness committee.

The “pink party” was free for all Hynes staff members who chose to attend, but voluntary donations were accepted for the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer that took place in Chicago last weekend.

During the past few years, a group of Hynes teachers have banded together to support the annual breast cancer walk as volunteer staff or by participating in the 40-mile walk.

Supporting the fight against breast cancer became even more important to the teachers at Hynes this past year after Cindy Conejo, a popular seventh and eighth grade Spanish teacher, was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Conejo joined the 15 teachers — including District 67 Superintendent Beth Flores — for the Zumba class, which was taught by second grade teacher Susan Uribe.

“She [Conejo] is our inspiration — she’s our Wonder Woman,” said Lisa Featherstone, a counselor at Hynes Elementary. “We’re trying to raise money and show our support.”

The wellness committee — a group of teachers who banded together to plan events that get the school more focused on health-related awareness — also planned a volleyball tournament next week to further support breast cancer research and awareness.

On Fri., June 6 from 4 to 6 p.m., “Volley for a Cure” will include Hynes alumni, 2014 eighth grade graduates and staff, for a two-hour volleyball tournament.

After hearing about their teachers’ involvement in the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer and other fundraising initiatives they’re doing, some students have started helping out by selling handmade bracelets and baked goods at school, Featherstone said.

“Students found out what we were doing and have offered to step in and help us,” she said.

“These events are about bringing people together for health-focused events that help raise money for a good cause.”

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Wearing real wartime uniforms dating as far back as the Civil War era, a group of military re-enactors paid tribute to soldiers of the past last weekend at the Niles Historical Society and Museum.

Historian Chris Mantas from the 1st Michigan Engineers for Civil War Re-enacting led a discussion last May 25 about what it was like to be a soldier in the Civil War, World War I and in World War II.

A crowd of about 15 history enthusiasts gathered for the presentation to learn about historic weapons used in wars, the food soldiers carried on missions, and detailed strategies used by the U.S. Military throughout history.

Mantas and seven other war re-enactors described the hardships soldiers endured during the wars, from treating wounds by stabbing themselves with tiny bottles filled with morphine to eating a meager diet of canned "pork-like" meat and crackers during World Wars I and II.

During the Civil War, basic food rations consisted of a few simple items including whole coffee beans, sugar, salt, and hard crackers nicknamed "sheet-iron crackers" by soldiers for their hard texture.

The food — carried in a satchel worn in front of the body called a haversack — often became overheated from body heat, and would grow maggots that the soldiers were forced to eat because it was the only source of protein they could get, Mantas explained.

Disease ran rampant during the Civil War, and lack of medical care led to the deaths of about 400,000 of the approximately 600,000 soldiers killed during the war, Mantas said.

"These men came from a rural background and were never exposed to childhood diseases," Mantas said. "Thousands died after getting diseases like the measles and the mumps."

Beyond poor medical care and malnutrition, the soldiers in wars of the past wore up to 125 pounds of gear at a time, which included heavy rifles, extra parachutes, medical kits and heavy gas masks.

Re-enactors explained that during World War II when the U.S. started using paratroopers for the first time in history, jumpers were pushed out of military planes over desolate stretches of Germany during the night.

The casualty rate of paratroopers during the second World War was between 20 and 30 percent, according to Mantas.

The presenters also showed and discussed several weapons used during the wars, including the M1 Garand, which was the standard-issue service rifle issued to U.S. forces in World War II and in the Korean War.

Michael Crisci of the Niles Historical Society said the military re-enactment was an ideal way to mark Memorial Day by providing a first-hand look at life as a soldier throughout the nation's war history.

"By discussing the outfits they wore and the history of the wars they fought in, we can tell people what it was truly like to be a soldier in those eras," Crisci said.

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Comparing apples to apples

HELP SQUAD
BY JACKIE PILOSSOPH

When Dominick's announced it was closing, it opened the door for several other grocery stores to enter the Chicago suburban market. Milwaukee-based Mariano's and Cleveland-based Heinen's being two of the major players. As a result, we now have many more options when it comes to shopping for food.

But how do you know if you're getting the best value and price when it comes to the food you're putting on your table?

Help Squad decided to help you figure that out. This week, we visited six grocery stores: Mariano's, Whole Foods, Target, Jewel, Heinen's and Sunset Foods, and literally compared apples to apples to figure out who's charging what.

We chose 14 random products that people typically buy: broccoli crowns, Gala apples, a pound of ground chuck, a box of Apple Jacks, an 8-pack of Coke Zero, a pint of Ben & Jerry's ice cream, a bag of Lay's potato chips, a gallon of 2 percent organic milk, a dozen eggs, a pound of butter, the potato chips, a pint of oven-roasted turkey and sushi. They were all six stores we visited. We then recorded the price of each item at all six stores. We used regular prices (not sale prices), and we chose the least expensive item at each store when we weren't using brand names.

We added up the cost of all 14 items. Here are our results, in order of the least to the most expensive grocery store for the items:

1. Target: Having broken into the grocery business not too long ago, Target by far came out with the lowest prices of all six stores we visited. Apple Jacks, Ben & Jerry's ice cream and organic milk were three items that were significantly less than in all the other stores. Keep in mind, however, there is no salad bar, no sushi bar, and no deli at Target. So, in trying to keep things fair, we took the average of those items from the other stores and added it to Target's total bill for the 14 items.

   Total bill: $43.80

2. Mariano's: This grocery store had the lowest price for Gala apples by far, almost half of what they cost at Whole Foods and even Target. The salad bar and sushi were the least expensive of all six stores, and the organic milk was less than all the other stores, with the exception of Target.

   Total bill: $61.07

3. Heinen's: We were pleasantly surprised at how clean and beautiful this new grocery store was! When it came to products, Ben & Jerry's was the least expensive of any of the six stores, with the exception of Target, where it was the same price. Also, Mariano's didn't carry Ben & Jerry's so we used Haagen-Dazs at that store.

   Total bill: $61.07

4. Jewel: Very similar in price to Mariano's and Heinen's, there were no big surprises at Jewel. Apple Jacks and Ben & Jerry's were surprisingly high, but the salad bar was the least expensive, with the exception of Mariano's.

   Total bill: $66.57

5. Sunset Foods: This is a very different store than the others, and one that is known for its many specialty items made by local food artisans. So, we knew going in that Sunset's prices were going to be a bit higher than the big box stores. Notably, higher priced items included ground chuck, Ben & Jerry's, and Apple Jacks, which cost $1.20 more than at Jewel, $1.70 more than at Heinen's, $2.00 more than at Mariano's and $2.20 more than at Target.

   Total bill: $71.47

6. Whole Foods: It's very hard to compare Whole Foods to any of the other stores, so in all fairness to the store, we wanted to say that up front. That said, the store did rank as the highest price store for our 14 items. Notable: Ben & Jerry's costs $5.39, compared to $5.19 at Sunset, $5.99 at Target and Heinen's, and $4.59 at Jewel. This store was also the most expensive of the stores for eggs, salad bar, oven-roasted turkey and sushi. They were surprisingly one of the least expensive for organic milk and butter.

   Total bill: $82.35

We know that most shoppers go to different grocery stores for different things, different purposes and at different times, which makes sense. We want to point out that we think all six of these stores are beautiful, wonderful places to shop, that are all clean, safe and customer-friendly. Each store has its own, unique items to offer; its specialties and its niches. All that said, being the consumer advocacy column we are, we couldn't resist making one final point. If you shopped for these 14 items once a week for one year, you'd spend $2,277.60 at Target, versus $2,822.20 at Whole Foods.

That's a savings of $5,046.60 just on those 14 items!
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Keystone Pipeline would bring needed jobs

O bstruction of the construction of the Keystone Pipeline seems to be simply another in a series of examples of mismanagement by government. What is even more puzzling is that most Illinois (Chicago) legislators sit idly, not making a bit of effort to promote this job-creating project that directly effects Illinois.

This delay is not only an obstruction of economic development and employment growth in the western states, but would cause an increase in employment in manufacturing and economic growth in the Chicago area and in the Midwest.

Before construction even begins, Illinois benefits. Before construction begins, the construction companies will need to order from a wide supplier of primary suppliers in Illinois and the region. The Midwest is the nation's backbone for equipment, technology, products, fabrication, and components. It will directly affect the metals, electrical, electronics, automotive, and related industries, including the financial field.

So, why are Illinois and other Midwest legislators who brag about what they do to create new jobs, which generally isn't even near the truth—unless is financed by our socialist government, simply urging President Obama to authorize the construction of the Keystone Pipeline.

It seems the state and federal governments have failed Illinois.

Professor Harry Lepinske
Western Springs

Remember the sacrifices of D-Day

This Friday marks the 70th anniversary of the date that saved the 20th century. June 6, 1944 will always be remembered as D-Day, the day the Allies invaded German-occupied France to begin the end of World War II. In less than a year, the war in Europe was over. And we've enjoyed the peace and prosperity that those brave soldiers won for us and for the world ever since.

Without them, the world would be a different place.

I first become obsessed with D-Day and its aftermath in 1994, as the 50th anniversary approached and I was editing the Oak Leaves in Oak Park. I had this great idea that we'd find a few Oak Parkers who participated in D-Day and write about their experiences.

So I put a note in the paper asking any Oak Park or River Forest residents who had participated in D-Day to give me a call.

I'll never forget the first call. "Are you going to write about D-Day?" Yes, I replied, and explained my idea. "Well I don't know why the hell anyone would want to talk about that," he said and hung up the phone.

He called about a week later. "Have you gotten any calls about D-Day?" he asked. As a matter of fact, we had. Veterans had started calling me about their experiences.

One was a medic, a teenager right out of high school who had landed on the beaches that morning of June 6. One was a combat engineer, who hit Omaha Beach before the first wave with the mission of taking out the obstacles and mines that lined the beaches. He later gave me the map of Omaha Beach that he carried with him.

Without them, the world would be a different place.

By Randy Blaser

"He told us about the slaughter, the bloody water, jumping over the side of his landing craft to escape machine-gun fire, swimming past dead bodies to get to the beach, just firing his weapon hoping he would survive. Then he said something I'll never forget. He said he hoped that no one would ever have to go through something like that ever again."

"He told me he landed at Omaha Beach at 8 a.m. That's how a lot of those guys faced such horror again, it is because we've enjoyed all these years."

Remember them on June 6.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Send your letters to the editor to News Editor Ben Meyerson at beneyerson@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.
A breakfast fit
for the president

Each day, the familiar
flow of misery and
mayhem that comprises
the evening news washes
over me.
I'm paying attention, sort
of, with one ear, as it were.
The scope and magnitude of
it all has a numbing effect.
But sometimes I hear
something that makes me
sit up straight.
Such as the recent story
of President Obama visiting
Chicago to attend fundraisers.
Normally, this wouldn't
catch the attention of even
one of my ears, much less
two. But this story did.
The reporter was saying
the President went out for
breakfast the morning after
the fundraisers.

So what?
The part that caught my
ears was when the re-
porter said, "The president
ordered two eggs over
medium, bacon and hash
browns."
That's my favorite break-
fast!
If I weren't afraid of what
doctors warn, if I had the
time and if I had the money
I would go to a restaurant
and eat this breakfast every
single day.
Breakfast — a good, full
breakfast is my favorite
meal of the day.
And two eggs over
medium with bacon and
hash browns is my favorite
breakfast.
Since I don't have a lot of
the three things I men-
tioned above, I often have
to cook my own breakfast
at home.
And it's not pretty.
My eggs over medium
should more aptly be called
eggs overthrown. I flip
them. They splatter and
shatter.
The Internet tells me fry-
ing eggs is easy:
1. Melt butter in pan, one
tablespoon per egg.
2. Tilt pan to coat.
3. Crack egg into center
of pan.
4. Fry egg two minutes.
5. Flip egg with thin
spatula; cook 30 seconds for
over easy, 90 seconds for
over medium.
And that's it.
Except I usually crack up
at step 5 — the flipping.
And while over-shredded
eggs taste OK, the better
way to prepare eggs is to
roll up your sleeves and say
to the waitress, "I'd like two
eggs over medium, bacon
and hash browns."

But from now on I think
I'll just say to the waitress,
"I'll have the Presidential,
please."
And hope she saw that
news item, too.
**FEATURED HOME**

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**Pioneer Press Mortgage Guide**

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**School districts:** East Maine School District 63 and Maine Township High School District 207
PROPERTY TRANSFERS
BY AGORO NEWS SERVICE

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

Niles
7751 W Dempster St: Florence Pawlak to Aner LLC Series 7751 W Dempster for $220,000 on April 18
8100 W Foster Lane, #c205: Maureen Joy Cohen to Violeta Kuczman for $100,500 on April 14
9128 Terrace Drive, #8128: Vincenza L Bucaro and Biagio F Bucaro to Beata Rozmus for $63,000 on April 16

Morton Grove
7000 Oakton St, #302: Elsa N Garcia to Teresita T Jamanan for $183,500 on April 15
8640 Waukegan Road, #526: Mitchell P Gibbs and Gloria I Gibbs to Ateequuddin B Syed and Asra Tabassuma for $125,000 on April 15
7100 Oakton St, #302: Elsa N Garcia to Jonathan M Schlesinger and Nancy Domecq for $1,025,000 on April 15
1731 George Court: James P Quinn and Debra J Quinn to Michael Peronti and Shana Peronti for $280,000 on April 16
2303 Larkdale Drive: Donald McNell and Mary McNell to Andrew Dragotta and Veronika Dragotta for $66,000 on April 15
5544 W Higgins Road, #2C: Viktor Brkic to Jovan Tesla and Mira Tesla for $560,000 on April 8
5574 W Higgins Road, #GC: Saveta Bulik to Jovan Tesla and Mira Tesla for $88,000 on April 15
5547 W Higgins Road, #2C: Viktor Brkic and Namka Brkic to Mirosława Nawrot for $86,000 on April 15

Harwood Heights
7441 W Winona St: Robert Trunt Trust, Patricia R Trunt Trust and R Trunt Patricia to Blair J Johnson and Lisa B Johnson for $775,000 on April 14
2203 Glenview Road: Dale Grenolds and Tara L Grenolds to Robert J Owens and Maggie Owens for $885,000 on April 15

Skokie
8001 Lockwood Ave, #408: Zane Smith to Katty Schuhkne for $162,500 on April 14

Clarendon Hills
11501 Ashland Rd: Abdul Mohsi and Anila Amin to Sultana to Amin M Umar for $183,500 on April 15

5506 Lincoln Ave, #418: Principle Realty Inc to Mirela Mecollari for $70,000 on April 17

Park Ridge
1216 Canfield Road: Pedar A Hurley and Kathleen D Hurley to Robert J Corliss and Colleen E Corliss for $287,000 on April 14
1117 Vine Ave: Right Residential LLC Series 3 to Right Residential II Fund I LLC for $415,000 on April 16
241 N Delphina Ave: Michael C Muir and Karen L Muir to Phillip Rossi and Elizabeth Rossi for $395,000 on April 16
809 Albion Ave: Andrew Dragotta and Veronica Cardenas to Adam Kabebarc and Kara Kabebarc for $526,000 on April 18
314 S Greenwood Ave: Intercounty Judicial Sales Corp and Scalfani to Yellowstone Homes LLC for $320,000 on April 14
593 N Western Ave: Jeffrey A Hammel and Patricia R Trunt Trust and R Trunt Patricia to Blair J Johnson and Lisa B Johnson for $775,000 on April 14

Burr Ridge
9512 Menard Ave: Abdul Mohsi and Anila Amin to Amin M Umar and Anila Amin for $90,000 on April 16

Chicagoland
5200 Oakton St, #107: Hazel Kaplan Trust, Hazel Kaplan Trust and Kaplan Hazel Trust to Scott C Decherrie and Ingrid E Decherrie for $122,000 on April 18
5328 W Washington St: Dennis W Weber to Vasilios Kerpiniotis for $390,000 on April 16

8203 Wiles Center Road, #3B: Ana Bursac and Milan Bursac to Mainwood B Semaka for $20,000 on April 16

Eveleth
5200 Oakton St, #107: Hazel Kaplan Trust, Hazel Kaplan Trust and Kaplan Hazel Trust to Scott C Decherrie and Ingrid E Decherrie for $122,000 on April 18
5328 W Washington St: Dennis W Weber to Vasilios Kerpiniotis for $390,000 on April 16

8203 Wiles Center Road, #3B: Ana Bursac and Milan Bursac to Mainwood B Semaka for $20,000 on April 16

4665 Brummel St: Elie Makhotok to Mohammed M Khan for $170,000 on April 17
8216 Kilpatrick Ave: Mark Feyman to Kilpatrick LLC for $560,000 on April 15
8325 Kilpatrick Ave: Family LP Parenti to 8325 Kilpatrick LLC for $450,000 on April 15
750 N Lowell Ave: Kenneth L Strauch and Bertha A Strauch to Vasilios Balas and Maria Balas for $200,000 on April 18
9513 Lavergne Ave: Raymond O Oshana and Nadia A Oshana to Sima Khoohab for $78,000 on April 16

Building Material Auction
SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2014
Kane County Fairgrounds, St. Charles, IL
Registration starts at 7:30 am, Auction at 9 am
Interior Doors: French Doors, Bi-Fold Units, 2 & 6 Panel Doors; Interior & Exterior Door Hardware
Exterior Doors: Swing Patio Doors, Steel Entries; Exterior Door Hardware
Kitchens & Baths: Kitchen Cabinet Sets by Peak Cabinet Co.; Vanities, Sinks & Toilets, Faucets; Jetted Tubs, Shower Environments, Granite Countertops
Flooring: Unfinished & Prefinished Hardwood Flooring, Laminates, Area Rugs
Windows: All Major Brands
Miscellaneous: Lumber, Moulding, Trim, Decking, Lighting, Power & Air Tools, Trees, Shrubs & Flowering Plants, Ceiling Medallions & Much More
Pre-Registration and Public Preview Friday, June 13, 2014 ~ 12 to 6
Pre-register online; find inventories, photos, terms, maps & directions at www.peakauction.com; Buyer's Premium. For exact terms visit our website. Full settlement must be made on day of purchase, no exceptions. Sale day selections take precedence over all written material. All purchases must be removed by 5:00 p.m., SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2014.
The auction is not a safe place for small children.
816-474-1982; www.peakauction.com
Richard Peak 441.000454; Phil Graybill 441.000445
William Crews 441.001597

Call 630-978-8229 to list your auction here!
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.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

Introduction to Word Web App
9:30 a.m.: Learn to use the free version of Microsoft Word. An MSN account is required. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Second Saturday Breakfast Bingo
9:30 a.m.: Kids and families are invited for breakfast treats and Bingo. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

MONDAY, JUNE 16

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 an 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.

Yoga for Kids: Stretch, Bend and Breathe
4:30 p.m.: Kids ages 4-8 can learn yoga poses and breathing techniques. No 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.

THURSDAY, JUNE 5

Torch Run for Special Olympics Illinois
10 a.m.: Cheer on members of the Niles Police Department who run to raise money for the Special Olympics Illinois. Niles Village Hall, 1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles. Call 847-588-8000.

Animal Quest
2 p.m.: Jessica and Steve Reedy bring an assortment of animals, both wild and tame, to the library for an educational and entertaining afternoon. Pick up tickets 30 minutes ahead of time. A second session begins at 3:30 p.m. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. For more information, call 847-663-1234.

NILES

FRIDAY, JUNE 6

Rise and Shine Story Time
10 a.m.: A 30-minute story time for children ages 2 to 5 with a caregiver. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

TUESDAY, JUNE 10

Senior Coffee Hour: Living Stronger Through Exercise
10:30 a.m.: Certified personal trainer Dr. Burton Fischman discusses maintaining a healthy lifestyle at any age. Wear casual clothing to participate in the light sampling of exercises at the end of the class. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Mango Languages Demo
3 p.m.: The hands-on workshop teaches participants how to use Mango Languages to learn a new language or improve their English skills. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

How to Use Your Digital Camera
7 p.m.: Learn how to get the most out of a point and shoot or DSLR camera and improve the quality of pictures. Attendees should bring their digital cam-

THURSDAY, JUNE 12

Know Where to Go: Workplace Skills
10 a.m.: Learn how to use the most popular computer programs. The session focuses on sites for updating workplace skills, including Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Registration required. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

CJE SeniorLife Resource Counseling
12:30 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. Sixty-minute sessions are available. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. For more information, call 773-508-1054.

FRIDAY, JUNE 13

John Green Fan Night
5 p.m.: Celebrate the movie release of "The Fault in Our Stars" with other teen fans. The event includes team trivia, food and prizes. For teens in grades seven to 12. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

Introduction to Excel Web App
1 p.m.: Learn how to use the free version of Microsoft Excel. An MSN account is required. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Little Authors: Talk, Pretend and Play
2 p.m.: A family workshop where children are the storytellers and grownups are the scribes. For kids ages 3 to 5 with a parent or caregiver. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

TUESDAY, JUNE 17

Introduction to Excel Web App
1 p.m.: Learn how to use the free version of Microsoft Excel. An MSN account is 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, 5676 W. Howard St., Niles.

HAPPENING NEARBY

THURSDAY, JUNE 5

Grilling Out and Beer Pairings
7 p.m.: Grilling season is finally here. Come join us to learn some new, healthy recipes to try on your grill this summer, and some delicious Whole Foods beers to pair with them. All participants must be 21 and bring a valid driver’s license. Whole Foods Market Park Ridge, 229 W. Touhy Ave., Park Ridge. Call 708-903-1476. $10.

Manga/Anime Appreciation Club
7 p.m.: Teens meet to talk and discuss manga and anime. Japanese refreshments will be served. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-673-7774.

FRIDAY, JUNE 6

Nonfiction Book Discussion
10 a.m.: The group discusses "Wicked River" by Lee Sandlin. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Backyard Campton
5 p.m.: Camp out with your family in the Park District's backyard, outside at the Wildwood Nature Center. Enjoy a campfire dinner and smores on Friday night and breakfast on Saturday morning. After dinner, say hello to the Wildwood critters, borrow a fishing pole and visit the pond, and enjoy a family friendly movie before turning in for the night. Participants are required to bring their own tents and bedding. Fee is per person. Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-3570. $10 resident, $16 nonresident.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

Park Ridge Farmers Market
7 a.m.: The weekly farmers market runs every Saturday through October. Park Ridge Farmers Market, Prairie and Garden Streets, Park Ridge.

Morton Grove Farmers Market
8 a.m.: The market features favorites such as seasonal fruits and vegetables, meats, eggs, baked goods, cheeses, honey, hand-crafted items, natural bath and body products, gifts, prepared foods and more, as well as live music, children's activities and a free drawing. Runs weekly through Oct. 18. Market Grounds, 6210 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-750-6436.

Great Discoveries Beyond Google
10 a.m.: Learn about online resources available at the library. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

'Paws to Read' Summer Reading Kick-Off Festival
10 a.m.: Register for a Summer Reading Club and enjoy the opening day excitement, including prizes, refreshments and fun for the whole family. Staff from New York Life will be on hand to issue free child photo ID cards. Start in the lobby by spinning the prize wheel and move into the Community Room to sign up for the program and receive your

SEE CALENDAR. NEXT PAGE »
prize, including Ravinia tickets, coupons for free
DVD rentals, and an assortment of other fun
giveaways. Whole Foods Market Northbrook
will provide light refreshments. Just drop in. Glenview
Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview. Call
847-729-7500.

Grand Opening
10:30 a.m.: Celebrate the center’s opening with
games, giveaways and music. Ribbon cutting
ceremony and statue dedication begin at 11:30
a.m. Oriole Park Aquatic Center, 9200 Oriole Ave.,
Morton Grove. $3.

Home Alone Workshop for Kids
11 a.m.: The workshop teaches kids how to be alone
responsibly, including how to handle situations
with strangers, bad weather, power outages and
dialing 9-1-1. Dee Park, 9229 Emerson St., Des
Plaines. Call 847-297-3059. $5.

DAR Genealogy Workshop
1:30 p.m.: This drop-in workshop is for women who
are interested in joining the 21st Star Chapter of
Daughters of the American Revolution. Park Ridge
Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge.
Call 847-625-3123.

Party with the Park
7 p.m.: Celebrate the end of grade school and
the beginning of middle school with us! The night
includes a DJ, inflatables, open gym, open swim,
wall ball, ping pong, and racquetball. Snacks and
pop are available for purchase. No admittance
after 7:30 p.m. Pick up is at 8:00 p.m. Participants
are not allowed to walk home without a parent
note. Park Ridge Community Center, 1515 W. Touhy
Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-5129. $5.

MONDAY, JUNE 9

Graduation Breakfast
8:30 a.m.: Graduates and their families are invited
for breakfast and a recognition of their accom-
plishments. All level graduates are invited. Contact
the PRPC office to register, Park Ridge Presbyteri-
an Church, 1300 W. Crescent Ave., Park Ridge. Call
847-625-4105.

Greater Chicago Jewish Festival
11 a.m.: Peter Himmelman will headline this year’s
Greater Chicago Jewish Festival. The festival is truly
the heart and soul of Jewish Chicago. In the event
of rain, the festival will be held at Niles West
High School, St. Paul Woods, 5500 W. Oakton St.,
Morton Grove. Call 847-933-3000. $5 suggested
donation; children and seniors free.

Book & Author: Isaac Levendel
1:30 p.m.: Six years of research contributed to
"Hunting Down the Jews: Vichy, Nazis and Mafia
Collaborators in Provence 1942-1944," Isaac
Levendel’s penetrating analysis of Nazi and Vichy
anti-Semitic policy. A book signing will follow.
Reservations required; email reservations@ ihmec.org. Illinois Holocaust Museum, 9603
Woods Drive, Skokie.

Quill Writing and Ink Making
1:30 p.m.: Learn about early forms of writing before
pencils and pens existed. For ages 5 and up.
Skokie Heritage Museum, 8031 Floral Ave., Skokie.
$8-$10.

How to Use Craigslist
1 p.m.: Learn about this classified advertisements
website with sections devoted to jobs, housing,
personals, for sale, items wanted and discussion
forums. Mather’s, 7134 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago.
Call 773-774-4804. $16-$20.

High School Finals Study Night
3 p.m.: A study space and pizza are available to
high school students studying for exams. Park
Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park
Ridge. Call 847-625-3123.

TUESDAY, JUNE 10

Genealogy Interest Group
6:30 p.m.: Whether you’re just getting started or
you’ve been researching your family history for a
while, this is the group for you. The Genealogy
Interest Group is designed to be an informal ex-
change of ideas and research techniques, and an
opportunity to get together with others interested
in genealogy. Come and share your ideas, pick up
a few pointers, and make new friends. For more
information or to register, go to calendar.mgpl.org
or call 847-929-5101. Morton Grove Public Library.

iPad Basics
10 a.m.: Learn how to use an iPad. This is a
demo class only. Attendees should bring their
devices. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect
Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call
847-825-3123.

Pet Carnival
10 a.m.: Games, crafts and activities to celebrate
their favorite pets. For 3 year olds. Park Ridge
Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge.
Call 847-825-3123.
BUILDING PERMITS

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

- **Sewer repair/clean out**
  - Address: 7725 N. Nordica Ave., Unit A, Niles
  - Issue date: Feb. 20
  - Permit cost: $60
  - Construction cost: $2,400

- **Demolition**
  - Address: 8233 N. Oconto Ave., Niles
  - Issue date: Feb. 20
  - Permit cost: $39
  - Construction cost: $2,000

- **Generator**
  - Address: 6929 W. Madison St., Niles
  - Issue date: Feb. 21
  - Permit cost: $147
  - Construction cost: $10,000

- **Single family - remodel**
  - Address: 6838 W. Madison St., Niles
  - Issue date: Feb. 18
  - Permit cost: $1,027
  - Construction cost: $24,999

BIZ NOTES

- Edelman has announced new leadership positions in the firm’s Chicago office, naming Kevin Cook as Chicago’s first chief operating officer and Una Pipic as the new chief of staff.
- Lake Forest Pediatric Associates has met all criteria for laboratory accreditation by COLA, a national health care accreditation organization. Accreditation is awarded only to labs that apply strict quality standards in daily operations, demonstrate continued accuracy in the performance of testing, and pass a rigorous on-site lab survey.
- Western Springs resident Joseph Hudson, a prosecutor in the Cook County State’s Attorney’s office, has received a Presidential Commendation from the Illinois State Bar Association for his extensive work on a complex case that involved a non-lawyer doing business on mechanics lien cases.
- Northwestern Mutual is honoring Deerfield resident Gregg Stiefel Neiman, affiliated with The McTigue Financial Group — a Northwestern Mutual office based in Chicago — with its 2014 Central Region Long-Term Care Leader Award. The honor recognizes Neiman for an outstanding year of performance with Northwestern Mutual, serving the financial security needs of clients and policy owners throughout the region.
- John L. Nisivaco, of La Grange, a partner in the Chicago personal injury firm of Boudreau & Nisivaco, LLC, has been re-elected to the Board of Governors of the Illinois State Bar Association.

Does your company have news about grand openings, hires, promotions, awards or recognitions? Email your items to biznotes@pioneerlocal.
Buyers of 'Ferris Bueller house' plan to 'love it'

The Highland Park property known as the “Ferris Bueller house” has sold for less than half the original $2.3 million asking price to a Highland Park couple who intend to maintain and restore the main home and pavilion in keeping with the modernist design reminiscent of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe.

The steel and glass home and pavilion, both Highland Park landmarks, sold for $1.06 million May 29 after five years, a succession of price reductions and misfortunes of timing.

The home famously appeared during one of the most climatic scenes of the 1986 John Hughes movie “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off.” Hughes used the glass-enclosed pavilion — perch on steel pilings over a ravine — as the fictional “garage” where Cameron Frye’s father kept his cherished, classic Ferrari. The two teens take the 1961 Ferrari out for a joyride and accidentally send the car crashing over a ravine as the fictional “timepiece reflecting post-World War II utilization of redundant industrial materials.”

The dwellings were placed on the market in 2009, when owner Francis Rose died. She and her husband, Ben, a textile designer who died in 2004, were the original and sole owners of the house over six decades.

The property was purchased by Meghann and Christopher Salamassick, an attorney and investment banker, respectively, who previously owned a 1924 Tudor Revival house with landmark standing. Both their new home and the adjacent pavilion are local landmarks.

“We were familiar with the Ben Rose property, and have long held a goal of owning a classic example of mid-century modern architecture such as the A. James Speyer home and David Haid pavilion,” said Meghann Salamassick. “We believe the home utilizes a unique combination of commercial grade steel and glass, and is an historical timepiece reflecting post-World War II utilization of redundant industrial materials.”

She said they plan to functionally update the property, while retaining its architectural qualities and historical integrity.

“The pavilion will be an integral part of the daily living and working space for our family, although we do intend to find additional ways to utilize the space that capitalize on its natural setting,” Salamassick said.

Realtor Meladee Hughes, the Coldwell Banker agent who had the listing during the five-year saga, said, “I can’t tell you how happy I am. They are planning to ‘love it’ and restore it to its original elegance.”

“To me, it was important that the right person acquire the house,” added Hughes, who had continually asked herself what the home’s owners of 60 years would have wanted.

“We had multiple offers and the home was under contract several times,” she said. Hughes is not related to the late movie director. One early, higher-priced offer came from a buyer who wanted to strip the home and garage down to the steel skeletons. In July of 2011, the home was under contract to another buyer when a severe storm broke a skylight and caused some interior water damage. Hughes said that buyer backed out “while we were fighting with the insurance company” and no major repairs could move forward until the issues were resolved.

The home went off the market for two years, and a new marketing campaign was launched last August with a lower asking price of $1.5 million.

Hollywood producer Oren Koules entered into a contract to purchase the home and pavilion in February of this year, but he and his wife decided the home was too small and could not be easily adapted to the needs of their young family. Koules was an executive producer of “Texas Chainsaw” (2013) and the television series, Two and a Half Men, among many other credits.

In architectural circles, the home and garage are valued for their distinctive style and ties to Mies van der Rohe. The four-bedroom home was designed in 1953 by A. James Speyer, who studied under Mies van der Rohe at the Illinois Institute of Technology. More than two decades later, Speyer’s student David Haid designed the smaller pavilion as a showcase for the Roses’ collection of European sports and touring cars. The pavilion also includes a kitchen and bathroom.

In 2011, preservation advocates raised concern when the city received inquiries about the feasibility of demolition and splitting the one-acre lot into two parcels. A 2001 survey of architectural resources in south and central Highland Park by Historic Certification Consultants described the garage as “perhaps the finest example of the Miesian style on the North Shore.”
Ball raises $1.4 million for Illinois Make-A-Wish Foundation

WISH BALL 2014
Benefiting: Make-A-Wish Illinois
Headline emcee: Seth Meyers
Location: Soldier Field, Chicago
Date: May 3
Attended: 940
Raised: $1.4 million

1. Marc Rolles and Susan Comstock of Evanston; 2. Eileen and Daryl Luke (from left to right) of Hoffman Estates, MaryLyn and Steve Ludkowski of Skokie, and Brooke and Jason Rotstein of Deerfield; 3. Heather and Mark Simpson of Park Ridge; 4. AJ and Jason Rudolph of Niles; 5. Emmy winner and comedian Seth Meyers (center) with Make-A-Wish Illinois ambassadors May 3 at Soldier Field. Pictured: Amanda Babyar of Westmont; Max Knipstein of LaGrange Park; Lucas Serrato of South Elgin; Alex Langtry of Buffalo Grove; James Ensign of Barrington; and Noah Stuart of Chicago. PHOTO BY BILL ROBERT
The Event: Nearly 1000 attendees converged on the Hilton Chicago on May 10 to make a stand against Alzheimer's disease at the 27th annual Alzheimer's Association Rita Hayworth gala. Founded by Princess Yasmin Aga Khan in honor of her mother, the actress Rita Hayworth who succumbed to Alzheimer's late in life; the event has since raised in excess of $61 million dollars towards a cure.

Chaired by Fifi Levin of Highland Park, whose father is currently fighting the disease, and Karen Segal of Glencoe whose mother is afflicted, the evening also honored the MacLean Family of Lake Forest with the 2014 Civic Honor.

Cause Célèbre: "It's very personal to me," said Levin. "My father has it and I am hoping that my kids don't have to do this one day; that future generations will not be impacted by this illness."

Deaths from Alzheimer's have increased 68 percent between 2000 and 2010, with 500,000 seniors dying each year of Alzheimer's disease.

"Unfortunately at this point there is no treatment or cure for the disease and we need to fund research in order to (find one)," said Segal.

In addition, organizers encouraged all people, not just those already diagnosed with Alzheimer's, to participate in the current trial match. "Because the more well people we get participating in clinical trials, the better hopes we have of finding a cure," said Segal.

June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. The association urges everyone to recognize June 21 as "The Longest Day," and to "Go Purple" to show their support to end Alzheimer's. See alz.org.

Proceeds from the gala evening will go towards funding research geared specifically at determining how to turn the gene that causes Alzheimer's on and off, and what triggers the disease.

Bottom Line: The event raised a record $1.7 million.
Newlywed Q-and-A

Jiyun Kang and Raymond Chan

Question: Think back to the first time you met your significant other. What was your first reaction?
Jiyun Kang: I actually don't remember the first time we met, but I remember when he asked me to go to Honor's Ball our junior year (similar to prom during college). It was a whole balcony scene where he held up poster boards asking me to be his date. I felt very nervous and happy at the same time.

Q: What's the best piece of advice you can give to people planning a wedding?
Jiyun: Research multiple vendors. Don't just stick with the first one you interview or meet. Make a list of questions to ask beforehand. Sometimes spending more money is worth it to have the right vendor or, in our case, photographer.

Q: Imagine the sky's the limit. With no restraints, what's one thing you would have had at your wedding?
Jiyun: We would have a live band and reception coordinator. Everything felt so out of sync. We ended up not doing some things that we were scheduled to do, such as a father-daughter dance, a bride-groom toast and thank yous. Ray would probably say destination wedding — he really wanted a smaller wedding. Family and close friends would get a nice vacation, and we would have had our honeymoon at the same time.

Q: Give a shout out to the wedding vendor you'd recommend.
Jiyun: Our limo driver from Emperor Limousine was very nice and didn't charge us for going over our designated time limit.

Q: What's your favorite characteristic or quirk about your significant other?
Jiyun: How goofy he can be. I love that he always makes me laugh.

Q: What was your first-dance song? Why did you choose it?
Jiyun: “I’ll Be Waiting” by D-Cru. This was the song he sang while serenading me when he told me he loved me for the first time.

Q: What was your biggest priority for the wedding?
Jiyun: Taking lots of pictures. Unfortunately, we were on a time crunch and weren't able to take too many at the Chicago Botanic Gardens with the wedding party as well as during the reception with our friends/family.

Q: What's one thing you'll always remember about your wedding?
Jiyun: Ray's expression when he saw me for the first time in my wedding gown.

Q: What's the best or worst gift your spouse has ever given you?
Jiyun: The best gift he's given me would probably be himself as a husband. He is the best man I know, although he has yet to give me a wedding gift.

Q: What's your best piece of advice for a happy marriage?
Jiyun: Never go to sleep angry. Always try to resolve the issue or make up before going to bed. Ray would agree.

Contact Renee Lee at rlee@bouquetcatcher.com or 312-651-6613 to share your wedding story. Facebook.com/BouquetCatcher Twitter @BouquetCatcher Pinterest.com/BouquetCatcher
Volvo S60 debuts fuel-efficient Drive-E technology

BY IRA SIEGEL
For Sun-Times Media

Last year, Volvo redesigned their S60 sedan, giving it a more sophisticated look. So, for the 2015 model year, Volvo has addressed the parts you do not see.

Volvo is introducing new Drive-E powertrain technology that will deliver improved fuel economy, reduced emissions, and increased driving dynamics.

Developed in Sweden, two versions of the innovative Drive-E 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine are making their debut on front-wheel-drive S60 models.

The 2015 Volvo S60 T5 Drive-E features a turbocharger and direct-injection to develop 240 horsepower and 258 pound-feet of torque, yet deliver an impressive 25/37 miles per gallon city/highway.

The other variant is the S60 T6 Drive-E. It is direct-injected, too, but features both a turbocharger and a supercharger, increasing output to 302 horsepower and 295 pound-feet of torque. Fuel economy for the T6 is a respectable 24/35 mpg city/highway.

Why a turbocharger and a supercharger, you ask? Typically, turbocharged four-cylinder engines are sluggish at low revolutions per minute, at least until there is enough airflow to spool up the turbo. So, the addition of a supercharger makes this small displacement four-cylinder engine feel like a stout six-cylinder engine.

Acceleration from a stop, and for passing maneuvers, is exceptionally quick and responsive. And let us not forget the impressive fuel economy it delivers.

An all-new eight-speed automatic transmission is featured in both Drive-E models. It helps to increase efficiency, as well as provide ultra-smooth shifts.

Also new is the start/stop feature, which automatically stops the engine when the vehicle comes to a stop. The engine restarts when the driver releases the brake pedal.

While start/stop helps improve fuel economy in urban settings, this feature can be turned off (the engine will remain on at stops) if the driver finds the delay in acceleration to be rather annoying.

Those looking to maximize fuel economy can select the ECO+ mode, which is designed to improve fuel economy by as much as five percent. This mode enables the start/stop function, optimizes shift points and throttle response.

Both Drive-E models feature a new Electrical Power Assist Steering (EPAS), which provides for an optional semi-automatic parallel parking system.

There are a number of advanced safety technologies available such as collision detection, and cyclist and pedestrian detection with full automatic braking.

Also available is a new lane change merge aid that goes a bit further than blind spot detection. This new system actually identifies vehicles approaching from the rear to alert you before you move into their path.

The S60, like most Volvos, has a remarkably nice interior, and exceptionally supportive and comfortable seating. You will be surprised at how well you feel when stepping out of the S60 after a long road trip.

The cabin is well insulated and remains quiet at highway speeds.
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Through the scenic North Shore

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Service Hours: Mon-Thu 6:30am to 7pm; Friday: 6:30am to 5:30pm; Sat 7am to 4pm
Maintenance-free lifestyle available at Wilcox communities

Amenities, size, affordability — and, most importantly, maintenance — are baby boomers' top homebuying considerations, according to a recent study of 1,000 boomers (ages 49 to 67) by Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate.

Wilcox Communities, an exclusive builder of maintenance-free communities, offers boomers what is their No. 1 consideration when choosing a next home — the need for it to be low-maintenance.

At Wilcox communities, a professional association manages exterior upkeep for each home and its community, making living there an extremely low-maintenance option ideally suited to the active boomer lifestyle. Traveling boomers will especially appreciate having a "lock-and-leave" home with the ability to be gone for several months without worry.

According to the survey, a boomer's home doesn't necessarily have to be the biggest or most expensive as long as the home and community fit the desired lifestyle.

At a Wilcox community, residents get more than just a home — they get a lifestyle. All residents have unlimited access to the exclusive community clubhouse. The clubhouse serves as the heart of the community, providing residents with a place to do the activities they love. Whether it's watching the big game with friends, hosting a party in the fully equipped kitchen, playing a friendly game of billiards or working up a sweat in the on-site fitness center, residents can find everything they need to enjoy the active lifestyle they crave.

Although clubhouse activities can keep residents busy, Wilcox Communities are also located in and around cities that offer numerous events, festivals and other fun outings.

Though Boomers might downsize, they can purchase a new home in a Wilcox community without having to sacrifice space.

Ranging from 1,516 to 2,873 square feet with plenty of options for customization, Wilcox homes are ideal for boomers. All five Wilcox models — Abbey, Canterbury, Palazzo, Portico and Promenade — come standard with two...
ROCK CREEK HOMES

Stair-free living draws retired couple to Henning Estates

After living in their three-level townhome in Park Ridge for the past 14 years, Jay and Barbara Needleman decided it was time to find a new single-story home in a scenic country setting and give up those cumbersome stairs and their noisy airport neighbors.

They searched for four months trying to find the right setup. But the minute they walked into the South Haven ranch model at Henning Estates in Huntley, the Needlemans knew they had found exactly what they wanted.

The excited couple chose to have a stunning 2,260-square-foot South Haven ranch home built for them on a ½-acre lot overlooking 10 acres of prairie grass.

"When we walked through the decorated South Haven model at Henning Estates, we knew this was the home we wanted. The wide-open floor plan, the abundance of large windows filling the rooms with natural light, and the impressive volume ceilings created just the right atmosphere we were looking for. This floor plan did not confine us or box us in. It made us feel free and created the impression the home is much larger than it really is," said Barbara.

Rock Creek Homes created Henning Estates as a premier community of quality-built homes with popular features already included in the base price.

"We found that the homes at Henning Estates are very well equipped right from the start," said Jay.

Some of the many included features found in the ranch homes at Henning Estates are hardwood floors, maple cabinets, granite countertops, ceramic tile, 9-foot first-floor and basement ceilings, architecturally creative volume ceilings, oversized hardwood trim and moldings, stainless-steel appliances and professional landscaping.

Energy efficiency and comfort are also important. Builders Peter LeSueur and Ryan VanLue of Rock Creek Homes are dedicated to building high-quality homes with energy-conserving features such as energy-efficient heating and cooling components, high-rated insulation, programmable thermostats and Energy Star-rated windows.

For an additional cost, the Needlemans chose to enhance their home with an optional three-car garage and a fireplace in the family room.

The South Haven features two bedrooms and a den, two full bathrooms, a formal dining room, great room and kitchen with convenient breakfast room and is base priced at $396,900. Other ranch plans provide a minimum of 1,800 square feet of living space and are base priced starting at $349,900.

The Henning Estates community has a rural, nature-presence-like feel, and the homesites average ½ of an acre. Yet the scenic and private community is within minutes of great shopping at Algonquin Commons and popular stores including Best Buy, Home Goods, Costco, Wal-Mart, Kohl's and Super Target. Grocery stores, pharmacies and casual dining establishments are equally accessible.

"We can't wait for our home to be finished and our new life to begin out here. We are far away, yet we are close to everything we will need," said Barbara.

To visit Henning Estates, take Route 20 west from the I-90 tollway for two miles and then turn right (east) on Church Road. The community entrance is on the north side of Church Road about ¼ mile from Route 20. The sales center and two decorated ranch model homes are open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment.

For more information call (847) 338-3821 or visit www.henningestates.com.

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WILCOX | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bedrooms, two bathrooms, 2- or 2.5-car attached garage, open floor plans, and ample storage space. Each well-designed luxury ranch home offers roomy interiors and unique features (varying by model) such as a private outdoor courtyard or an optional four-season room.

Boomers who move away from their current dwelling and into a smaller home will have lower home-maintenance and utility costs, giving them more to spend on travel and other interests.

A Wilcox home can start from the mid-$100,000s, depending on the location of the community and the model home. Additionally, Wilcox offers Federal Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) loans, providing boomers age 62 and older with an additional financing option.

Wilcox has nearly 30 communities in seven states, including those in Woodstock, Plainfield and Chapman, Ill., and Valparaiso, Ind. To learn more, visit www.WilcoxCommunities.com.
MERITUS HOMES

Sales to start in Greenbrook at Highland Woods in Elgin

Deerfield, Ill.-based Meritus Homes has announced it will begin sales this summer for Greenbrook, the builder’s neighborhood of 22 single-family homes within the master-planned Highland Woods development on Elgin’s west side.

“Elgin is one of Illinois’ fastest-growing towns, and its west side is a dynamic area with so much to offer in the way of local amenities and a beautiful Fox Valley setting,” said Brian Brunhofer, president of Meritus Homes. “Among the new-home communities in Elgin, Highland Woods stands apart with its active clubhouse lifestyle, convenient location and an on-site school within the highly regarded Central Community School District 301.”

Located three miles west of Randall Road on the north side of Route 20, just minutes from historic Elgin and the Randall Road corridor, Highland Woods is a fully developed lifestyle community by Crown Community Development, planned to include approximately 1,100 homes across 12 individual neighborhoods. Meritus Homes is the exclusive builder for the Highland neighborhood, and will offer its semi-custom design process through which buyers can use floor plans from its portfolio as a starting point for further personalization. Semi-custom home packages will be priced from the mid-$400,000s. 1 SUPPLIED PHOTO

10-foot first-floor ceilings; a gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, 42-inch cabinetry, granite countertops and a preparation island; and luxury master suites with a spa-like master bath.

According to Brunhofer, Meritus is also approved to build homes in other neighborhoods throughout the community.

“If a buyer is looking for a different lot size or location, we have the ability to build in other neighborhoods on a custom basis,” he said.

Residents of Greenbrook at Highland Woods will enjoy full access to the community’s extensive lifestyle amenities, including the exclusive Owners Club with a clubhouse, fitness center, sports courts and resort-style pool and water park. Highland Woods is set among 196 acres of open space, with beautiful grounds featuring natural preservation areas, an 18-acre lake, more than five miles of walking and biking paths, and seven neighborhood parks and playgrounds.

“Not only do these amenities contribute to a very active lifestyle at Highland Woods, but they also make it easy for residents to connect with one another,” said Brunhofer. “There’s a real sense of neighborhood here, which can be unusual in a community of this size.”

Families at Greenbrook at Highland Woods are served by Central Community School District 301. Elementary students at Highland Woods attend an on-site school, Country Trails Elementary, located adjacent to the Highland Woods Owners Club.

Highland Woods is minutes from Interstate 90, with Metra’s Milwaukee District West line offering easy access to downtown Chicago via the Big Timber, Elgin or National Street stations. Residents are also in proximity to downtown Elgin, with its multiple shopping and dining options and cultural attractions such as the Hemmens Cultural Center and the Elgin Art Showcase. Elgin’s Grand Victoria Casino and multiple public and private golf courses are also nearby.


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**THINGS WE LOVE**

**THIS WEEK**

**Más restaurant**
The West Loop just got a little spicier. At the new modern Mexican restaurant, two-star Michelin chef Yanitzin Sanchez creates dishes like tropical guacamoles ($8), crispy chicken flautas ($13) and beef and pork meatballs ($13) — plus drinks like the Oaxacan Club, made with mezcal, pomegranate grenadine, lemon and egg white ($12). 800 W. Washington; Barmaschicago.com

- Kiehl’s Calendula deep-cleansing foaming face wash
  We’re in the clear thanks to this new gel-to-foam deep-cleansing wash, designed to prevent blemishes and provide plenty of hydration for normal to oily skin. $29, 520 N. Michigan; Kiehls.com

**AT THE SHOOT**

**TOAST OF THE TOWN!**

We spent the afternoon with bride-to-be Ginger Zee of “Good Morning America” as she modeled four different wedding gowns. But for her own nuptials — she’ll marry NBC’s Ben Aaron in Michigan this month — she’s keeping the dress a surprise.

**CREDITS**

Photographer: Billy Rood
Hair: Dora Smagler
Makeup: Lisa Hayes
Styling: Francesco Bilotto; FrancescoBilotto.com
Flowers: courtesy of Plant Shed New York Flowers, 209 W. 96th, New York, NY; Plantsshed.com

**ON THE COVER**

Memeka by Gustavo Cadile: strapless brocade gown, $3,740; (212) 600-5155; Sales@memekastudio.com
Dana Rebecca Designs: Rima Naya earrings, $2,090; Cy Fredrics Jewelers, 2719 Pingston, Glenview, Danarebeccadesigns.com

**TheStylisted**

Bring your beauty A-game to any summer wedding with help from this online platform, which lets you book at-home makeup artists and hairstylists. This month, the Chicago-based company, founded by Julia Carmona and Lauren Katzberg, is launching its new app, making it easier than ever to skip the salon and get beauty services delivered right to your door. Services start at $50; Thestylisted.com

**Alton Lane**

Calling all well-groomed grooms: The custom men’s clothier opens its Chicago showroom this week, featuring a 3-D scanner that takes 160 different measurements to ensure a perfectly cut suit and shirt. Shirts start at $89, suits start at $595; 49 E. Oak; Altonlane.com

**SPLASH**

WHAT’S YOUR FAVORITE PART OF A WEDDING?

Publisher and Editor
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“I love getting to finally talk to the bride at the reception. Instead of gushing about her groom or the day, she usually says something like, ‘Mom, I need a drink.’”

Managing Editor
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“About an hour into the reception, when that awkward, ‘Who’s going to be the dance floor first? moment has passed and everybody is just rocking out to Katy Perry covers.”

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“I love the best man toasts. They’re either great or super uncomfortable – either way, the audience wins.”

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“Nothing makes me happier than seeing an elegantly dressed bride start to go crazy when the DJ plays her favorite song from the early 2000’s.”

Interns
Andrea Antonio, Sydney Epstein, Maddie Fasel, Alicia Hauge

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Founder
Michael Ferro

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this week

June 5

• ACTIVATE
The latest initiative from the Chicago Loop Alliance sees artists and performers taking over downtown alleyways, creating a cultural happy hour with city streets as the gallery space. The second installment in this five-part series is inspired by the Art Institute's upcoming Rene Magritte exhibit and features art curated by King Art Collective, performances by The Galaxie and music by DJ Madrid.

Time: 5-10 p.m.
Place: Chicago Theatre alley, State between Randolph and Lake
Cost: Free. RSVP at Loopchicago.com and receive a free drink ticket.

June 5-8

• HUBBARD STREET SUMMER SERIES
The dance company closes out its 36th season with a trio of performances: "Gra-va" by Nacho Duato, "Quintet" by William Forsythe and the world premiere of "The Impossible," the 13th work by Hubbard Street's Resident Choreographer Alejandro Cerrudo.

Time: Thursday 7:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday 8 p.m., Sunday 3 p.m.
Place: Harris Theater for Music and Dance, 205 E. Randolph
Cost: $25-$94. For tickets, visit Harristheaterchicago.org.

June 7

• CHICAGO CARES
SERVE-A-THON
Join thousands of fellow Chicagoans and pitch in to improve our city at this 21st annual volunteer day. Grab some friends and head to Daley Plaza, where you'll be bussed to an in-need location to help paint, landscape, organize or accomplish other projects. Then, dig into food, drinks and music at a post-event party.

Time: 7:30 a.m. check-in, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. volunteer, 3:30 p.m. post-event celebration

Place: Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington
Cost: Free. For more information, visit Chicagocares.org/sa.

June 7

• GIRF BALL
Comedian and "Curb Your Enthusiasm" star Jeff Garlin performs and WTTW newsmen Phil Ponce emcees at the Gastro-Intestinal Research Foundation's black-tie event, also featuring cocktails, dinner, live music and live and silent auctions. Funds from the evening help support GI research at the University of Chicago Medicine and Northwestern Medicine.

Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel Chicago, 221 N. Columbus
Cost: $550. For tickets, visit Girf.org.

A CONVERSATION WITH MORGAN FREEMAN
The Academy Award-winning actor sits down with his "Last Vegas" director Jon Turteltaub to talk about everything from getting started to his favorite career moments. Post-chat, Freeman receives the Gene Siskel Film Center Renaissance Award, presented by Dr. Walter E. Massey, president of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Proceeds benefit the center's programming and education initiatives.

Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Ritz-Carlton Chicago, 160 E. Pearson
Cost: $500. For tickets, contact Dionne Smith at (312) 846-2072 or Dsmith16@saic.edu.

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next week

June 10

- **GUERRILLA TRUCK SHOW**
  Scout the best in design at the 10th annual Guerrilla Truck Show, where local designers, photographers and artists set up makeshift gallery spaces in the back of trucks. The pop-ups park in front of creator Morlen Sinoway's West Loop shop, alongside food and drink vendors. Event proceeds benefit the Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS.
  
  **Time:** 5:30-9:30 p.m.
  **Place:** Morlen Sinoway Atelier, 1052 W. Fulton Market
  **Cost:** $5 suggested donation. For more information, visit Theguerrillatruckshow.com.

June 11

- **RECIPES FOR REBUILDING ST. BASIL**
  After suffering a fire in March 2013, St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church is working to rebuild. Join Fr. Panteleimon Dallas in sampling fare from some of Chicago's top chefs, including James Beard Rising Star Chef winner Jimmy Banos Jr. of the Purple Pig, and sipping wine and beer to raise money for the fire restoration fund.
  
  **Time:** 6 p.m.
  **Place:** Galleria Marchetti, 825 W. Erie
  **Cost:** $85. For tickets, call (312) 243-3738 or visit Stbasi/chicago.org.

June 13

- **MIDSUMMER EVE OF THE EVE**
  Marking the halfway point to its signature Eve of the Eve event in December, HighSight's 14th annual warm weather event serves up hors d'oeuvres, an open bar, silent auction, cash raffle, music and dancing. Funds raised help HighSight offer scholarships, tutoring and academic and social support to local high school students.
  
  **Time:** 5:30 p.m.
  **Place:** The Plaza at Park Grill, 11 N. Michigan
  **Cost:** $70 in advance. For tickets, visit Highsight.org.

- **CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN SUMMER DINNER DANCE**
  Don your best black-tie attire for this annual garden party, which takes place amid the flora and fauna of the Botanic Garden. Sip cocktails in the Garden's esplanade and dine and dance in the pavilion to music by Lynne Jordan and the Shivers. Proceeds benefit the Garden's extensive programming.
  
  **Time:** 6:30 p.m.
  **Place:** Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook, Glencoe
  **Cost:** $750. For tickets, call (847) 835-6958.

- **MAKE ROOM FOR DEBATE LUNCHEON**
  Hosted by the Chicago Debate Commission - an organization that seeks to empower low-income and underserved youth through speech and debate skills - this third annual event, chaired by Kurt Summers, SVP of strategy and corporate development for Grosvenor Capital Management, honors Gery Chico, chairman of the Illinois State Board of Education, with the Champion of Debate Award.
  
  **Time:** 11:15 a.m.
  **Place:** University Club of Chicago, 76 E. Monroe
  **Cost:** $125. For tickets, visit Chicagodebatecommission.org.

- **FLEUROTICA**
  Fashion is in full bloom at this annual runway show - Garfield Park Conservatory's biggest fundraiser - in which top floral designers create couture gowns from plants, flowers and other greenery. Sip cocktails, dine on hors d'oeuvres and take in work from this year's participants, including Stacey Carlton and Luz Cardenas, Laura Deluge of Anna Held Floral Design and Deborah Welsenhaus of Art of Imagination. Proceeds from the event benefit the Conservatory’s nature education offerings.
  
  **Time:** 6 p.m.
  **Place:** Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park
  **Cost:** $250 and up. For tickets, visit Fleurotica.org.
Marwen students and alumni showcased their talents with original projects and performances at the after-school arts program's annual Paintbrush Ball May 17. Jada Harvey, a senior at Kenwood Academy and Marwen student who will attend the School of the Art Institute on a full scholarship this fall, kicked off the evening's program with a spoken word piece performed in front of 450 supporters at the school (833 N. Orleans). Later, an original artwork by alumnus Daniel Sanchez was presented to Northern Trust chairman and CEO Frederick H. Waddell by co-chairs Amy and Andy Bluhm and Isa and Adam Pressman, as a keepsake for the Trust's two decades of support. More than $720,000 was raised for the school's free, arts-based programs for underserved Chicago youth. — Jacqueline Andriakos

Splash was the media sponsor of this event.

Marwen's Paintbrush Ball

Guests take to the dance floor.

Left: Maria Pinto, Antonia Contro, Mayor Rahm Emanuel and co-chairs Amy and Andy Bluhm
Right: Joyce Black participates in the interactive contour line drawing wall.

Photos by Timothy Samuel

HORIZON HOSPICE'S CIRCLE OF CARE BENEFIT

Above: Ada Addington and Dr. Larry J. Goodman

FULL CIRCLE

Horizon Hospice & Palliative Care has been providing care for severely ill children and their families for more than 35 years and — with the help of the more than 150 gala guests at the Circle of Care benefit May 17 — the nonprofit will continue to offer its services to the community. Held at the Casino (195 E. Delaware), the event honored Dr. Larry J. Goodman and Steven and Susan Lipe with the Caregiver of the Year Award for their work with Horizon Hospice; and Goodman and Mrs. Lipe spoke about the excellent end-of-life care Horizon provides. Attendees enjoyed dinner, live and silent auctions and dancing to the smooth tunes of the Elmhurst College Jazz Band, raising more than $170,000 to benefit the organization's pediatric hospice and palliative care program, "All About Kids." — Alicia Hauge

Splash was the media sponsor of this event.

Photos by Jennifer Girard Photography
right, springtime greens are in full bloom around town — both in Chicago's lush gardens and its residents' luxe fashions. The hue channels a fun and flirty attitude that's perfect for the warm weather. Pick a shorter hem, like Carven's minty minis or Honor's pastel green floral-and-lace dresses, to show off those golden stems, or don capris for a chic yet casual style. To punch up a dark or neutral outfit, take cues from Badgley Mischka: The fashion house gave models a thorough dusting of soft jade eyeshadow before sending them down the runway in black, navy and tan ensembles. A new season means it's time to turn over a new — and fashionable — leaf.
Chicagoans joined honorary co-chair Mayor Rahm Emanuel for an afternoon of dining, desserts and dancing at the annual Public Humanities Award luncheon May 20. The Illinois Humanities Council celebrated Chicago Dancing Festival pioneers David Herrnstein, treasurer of the festival and an investor in Splash parent company Wrapports, and Jay Franke, co-founder and co-artistic director of the festival, for their commitment to arts and education. Nearly 400 supporters feasted on signature dishes by chefs Michael Kornick of MK Restaurant and Christine Cikowski and Josh Kulip of Sunday Dinner Club and Honey Butter Fried Chicken and sampled Vosges Haut-Chocolate inside the Palmer House Hilton (17 E. Monroe). Joffrey Academy of Dance trainees and the ChiArts Jazz Ensemble wrapped up the luncheon with special performances to help raise more than $400,000 for IHC's outreach programs. Splash was the media sponsor of this event. The Sun-Times Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust will match every dollar donated to the Illinois Humanities Council up to a total of $25,000. Up to $1,000 can be matched per individual donation.

STORIES BY JACQUELINE ANDRIAKOS
Skin for Life

SKIN DEEP

Advanced Dermatology and Skininfo Specialty Skincare founder Dr. Amy Forman Taub hosted guests at Viper Alley (275 Parkway, Lincolnshire) for the fourth annual Skin for Life event May 22. Dr. Taub made raising skincare awareness fun and fashionable with a runway show featuring looks from local labels including Shalini, Anastasia Chatzka and Crystal B. Designs and by inviting guests to indulge in mini-makeovers, beauty services and a silent auction. Melanoma survivors from Dr. Taub's practice were recognized and guests snapped photos throughout the night — for every selfie taken and posted on the Skininfo Facebook page with the hashtag #skinfoselfie, $5 was donated to the Skin Cancer Foundation — helping reach a $20,000 fundraising total.

PHOTOS BY FRANCIS SON

BLOOMINGDALE'S THE MAKEUP DATE

IT'S A DATE

Audience members receive samples during a SK-II demonstration.

Beauty fanatics put their best faces forward at Bloomingdale's (900 N. Michigan) The Makeup Date event May 17. Splash's own Susanna Negovan mingled with guests at the morning affair, which featured a runway show and showcased the latest eye, lip and skincare trends. Shoppers enjoyed one-on-one makeup sessions and scored product samples and manicure sets.
Between co-hosting “The View,” performing my “Dirty Sexy Funny” tour and releasing my 10th book, it has been difficult to find a happy balance between my work and personal life. On a daily basis, I find myself being pulled in multiple directions but while I can’t be in two places at once, it’s possible to get everything accomplished as long as I have an organized, balanced schedule.

Here are a few things to consider if you’ve been having a tough time finding that happy balance:

• Just like you plan your work schedule with meetings and lunch dates, keep a schedule for your personal life as well and don’t forget to schedule yourself some downtime. If it’s written in your calendar, you’ll actually do it because you’ve allowed yourself to make time for it. Scheduling things like date nights or play dates with your kids also gives you something to look forward to at the end of a long workweek.

• When you leave work, leave work. You keep all of your focus and attention on work while you’re there; it shouldn’t be any different for your personal life. Put the phone down, close the email and allow yourself to enjoy your time at home.

• It’s OK to say no. If you already have a week crammed full of work assignments and kids’ baseball games, remind yourself that it’s all right to turn down more obligations. If you don’t have the extra time to meet your boss out for drinks or attend the PTA meeting at school, say no and don’t feel guilty. Allow yourself to actually have and enjoy your free time.

What are some other helpful ways to keep your life at a happy and healthy balance?
Sunday Dinner

Italian Renaissance

Spiaggia reopens with a relaxed vibe — and a revelatory menu

BY RACHEL HANDLER

For nearly three decades, Spiaggia seemed to have perfected the art of high-end Italian dining. Packed nightly, the four-star restaurant drew everyone from President Obama to Lady Gaga to its plush perch overlooking Lake Shore Drive and Oak Street Beach. Even the Italian press was convinced, penning odes to James Beard Award-winning chef/ partner Tony Mantuano and his show-stopping dishes. So when Mantuano decided to shut Spiaggia down in January and completely reinvent it, Chicagoans were a little confused.

But Mantuano explains the choice simply. “We were coming up on a significant anniversary, and realized things needed updating,” he says. “As we traveled around Italy, around the world, we realized, ‘Wow, the look of fine dining has changed dramatically, and we’re not keeping up.’” More specifically, Mantuano discovered that while diners still wanted an elevated experience in terms of ingredients and presentation, they wanted to dial down the drama. “People want to enjoy the best food without having to put on a jacket and sit at a three-hour meal.”

Mantuano and his team revamped Spiaggia accordingly and reopened it at the end of May. Gone are the linen tablecloths, the Tchaikovsky tunes, the formal dress code and much of the previous menu and decor. The refreshed Spiaggia is, as Mantuano puts it, “playful.” “We removed the stuffiness,” he says. “But we didn’t change the soul of everything we do, which is Italian.”

Here’s what else to expect at the new Spiaggia:

Windows of opportunity: Spiaggia savants will notice one of the biggest changes immediately upon entering. Flanking the doors are floor-to-ceiling glass rooms stocked with nearly 2,000 Italian wines. The bottles were relocated from the back of the restaurant, opening up space for more tables to face jaw-dropping views of the city. [Designer] Mark Knauer wanted to make sure that everyone that sat at Spiaggia was looking out a window,” says Mantuano.

Eat your heart out: Just one Spiaggia standby remains on the menu: the pillowy, ricotta-drenched gnocchi ($23). “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it,” quips Executive Chef Chris Marchino. Otherwise, Marchino took the rest of the food to the next level, updating classic Italian antipasti, pastas, secondi and desserts with irrelevant ingredients and elaborate presentations. Take the caviar service, for example — servers bring a “balloon” of mozzarella to the table, pop it, then use it as a makeshift cup for the tiny pearls ($50 and up).

Dine or dash: “We want people to be able to create their own experiences here, enjoy Spiaggia in different ways,” says Mantuano. Don’t feel like a full dinner? Sidle up to the bar — now elevated and centralized so it overlooks the dining room — to snap one of bartender Derek Mercer’s 30 handcrafted cocktails, like the Bees Knees: gin shaken in a honey jar and accompanied by a paper cone full of honey-butter popcorn ($17). Or, settle into the new, 30-seat lounge and sample some of Marchino’s whimsical aperitivo. Our favorite was the foie gras, encased in soft amaretto cherries that spread easily across fluffy brioche ($10). “That feels like a little bit of a shocker,” says Marchino. “You’d be hard-pressed to find something like that at [the old] Spiaggia.”

980 N. Michigan, (312) 280-2750; Spiaggia restaurant.com

The caviar is served with a “balloon” of mozzarella that is popped tableside and used as a cup ($50 and up).
The MCA celebrates marriage equality with free weddings for LGBT couples

BY KRISTIN J. LARSON
PHOTOS BY RAMZI DREessen

For Hannah Jones-Lewis, 27, and Jessica Jones-Lewis, 29, the opportunity to get married is meaningful on many levels. "It reaffirms the principles of fairness and equality," Jessica says. But it's also a second chance for those who didn't support their first ceremony to watch them re-pledge their love to one another — this time, legally.

The couple, who met after literally running into each other at a mutual friend's college party in March 2007 ("I turned the corner, and Hannah was coming around the corner full steam and knocked me over," Jessica laughs), first tied the knot in Philadelphia on Nov. 6, 2010. Jessica recalls Hannah's proposal as a complete surprise: "I was..."
in a really bad mood that day and I was storming around the house. Hannah gave me some space to be upset, and after that, I thought our conversation would be, 'Ok, now that you're not angry anymore... But it was like, 'Will you marry me?' “ she says. “And while I was sleeping, she slipped the ring on my finger. I woke up a little disoriented.”

At that point, though, neither the law nor Hannah's family were ready to recognize their union. “I grew up in a pretty conservative family,” Hannah says. “Being with a woman ended several of the already fragile relationships I had with some family members.” Though the two were joined by 120 guests, with support from many friends and Jessica’s close-knit family, there were noticeable absences on Hannah’s side. “I had my cousin, who is wonderful, and two of my sisters, but no one else from my family,” she says.

Fortunately, Jessica’s family stepped up. “One of the things that has been significant in my relationship with Jessica is that her family has really taken me in. They’ve been incredibly open, sweet and loving, and brought me in as their daughter,” she says. “[That] helped me deal with the fact that there was going to be an isolation from my family.”

But on Monday, when Hannah, a project manager at the Fussy Baby Network at Erikson Institute, and Jessica, a teen programs manager at literacy nonprofit Open Books, say “I do” in the Kovier Atrium, it should be a vastly different occasion. This time, the women’s ceremony will be legally recognized, and members of Hannah’s family who didn’t support the Philadelphia ceremony will be there supporting them. “I think that shows how we’ve grown, how the people in our lives have grown and the depth of our relationship and the level of commitment that people can see,” Jessica says. “It’s beautiful to witness that.”

JAMES DARBY AND PATRICK BOVA >

After nearly 51 years together, James Darby, 81, and Patrick Bova, 76, will finally be able to call each other “husband.” “I’m not sure I want to take the plunge — I might get cold feet,” Darby jokes. It’s been quite the journey for the couple, who first met in 1963 after Darby spotted a handsome young Bova reading a book while walking. “I whistled at him, and my friend said: ‘Darby! We don’t whistle at guys on the South Side!'” Darby recalls. “And I said, ‘I don’t care. He’s so good-looking.’” Within six weeks, the two were living together. “Found a good one,” Darby laughs.

All joking aside, the new law and pending nuptials hold significant weight for the pair. Darby, a retired schoolteacher and veteran of the Korean War, and Bova, a retired librarian, have been at the forefront of the struggle for marriage equality. They were the lead plaintiffs in the landmark Lambda Legal lawsuit. Darby v. Orr in May 2012, fighting for the right to obtain a marriage license in Illinois. Over the past two years, Darby has met with veteran politicians several times in Springfield as a part of Lambda’s Freedom to Marry campaign, reminding them how he’d fought for the rights of all Americans during the war — and questioning why, as an LGBT American, his personal rights weren’t equal. “I’ve been involved in veterans activities for so many years, yet as a gay person, I still didn’t have all the rights,” he says.

To say the win comes as a relief to Darby and Bova is an understatement — neither thought they would see this day come. “In a way, we’ve been engaged for 50 years, and marriage is a culmination of that commitment,” Bova says. Matrimony will also bring with it important practical benefits, including marital rights to pensions and the ability to rest next to one another for eternity in the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. “What this does is give us many legal rights that we didn’t have before,” Bova says. “The emotional and fulfilling aspect of it is very important. I expect to cry.” Darby chimes in. “I’m different about that. I try to hold back the tears, and then they roll out in a waterfall.”

The strongest emotion the couple feels approaching the ceremony? Pure excitement. Both say they never expected to win the MCA’s contest. “It will be spectacular!” Bova says. They haven’t given much thought yet to how they’ll personalize the ceremony (“I said we should come from behind closed doors and they should play ‘Here Comes the Bride’ and two men come out in tuxedos,” Darby says) — they’re just thrilled they’ll be legally wed. “We’ll be able to say to the world, ‘Look, we’re married,’ Bova says. ‘Isn’t that amazing?”
Chai Wolfman, 34, and Mandi Hinkley, 33, first met as students at University of Wisconsin-Madison in the fall of 1999, where they were both working at Einstein Bros. Bagels. "I showed up my first day, and Mandi was assigned to train me," Wolfman recalls. "We started hanging out right away." Eight years later, the pair cemented their love by holding a commitment ceremony in front of friends and family. "Neither one of us really thought we would be able to have a legal wedding, so we decided to have a ceremony and party anyway," Hinkley says. Adds Wolfman: "We never thought that it would be only seven years before that would happen."

A lot has happened in those seven years: Wolfman and Hinkley welcomed twin daughters Autumn and Violet in 2009, they moved into their Sauganash Park home in 2013 — and the marriage equality legislation finally passed, something their family had been actively fighting for alongside Equality Illinois. When the law finally became a reality, the couple knew they had to celebrate in a big way. 'We saw the MCA’s contest on Facebook, so we applied the very first day," Wolfman says. For Hinkley, a lawyer, and Wolfman, an artist, the location was kismet. "In college, we took one of our very first trips together to visit the MCA, so we feel incredibly grateful that they chose us."

They’re also grateful to now be able to raise their daughters in a world where their parents can get married — just like anyone else. "One thing we talked about before the marriage bill passed is that we are a family, we love each other and we will be there for each other no matter what," Hinkley says. "Now there's not this additional hurdle that we'll have to explain to them."

For Wolfman and Hinkley, the wedding represents a high point in their 15-year love story. "We talk a lot about the seasons of life, and we feel like we're in the summer of our lives right now," Hinkley says. "We have each other, our children, our families and dear friends, our health and good fortune, and we have been blessed with the opportunity to be a part of this change in the course of history. And we hope for continued progress — a further spread of peace and joy in the world, and the will to continue the fight for future generations and other people who deserve the chance to live their lives freely and fully."
Andrew Jones describes himself in many ways: high school music teacher, military veteran, father, minister-in-training, mentor for LGBT youth, African-American and, most recently, gay male. On Monday, he'll add "husband" to the list when he marries fiancé Sean Holley. "I had to find a way to consolidate all these different roles," says Jones of his decision to proudly wed Holley. "I couldn't continue pretending like I was one person at work and a different person at church. It's much easier for me to be one person and share that one person with all aspects of my community."

Jones, 30, and Holley, 28, acknowledge their relationship hasn't exactly been traditional. Jones was formerly married to a woman, with whom he has a 9-year-old daughter, before getting a divorce in 2010. He and Holley, a licensed massage therapist, first began communicating via Facebook in April 2010, when Jones was on military active duty in the Caribbean. "We had many friends in common, and our friendship developed from there," he says. When they finally met in person nearly a year later, they knew their relationship was the real deal — and so did his daughter. "Anmarie gave him two thumbs up," Jones says.

Jones, a minister's son who's always been active in the church, was initially conflicted about coming out. "My entire life, I've struggled to consecrate my faith and my sexuality," he explains. But as Jones and Holley's relationship blossomed, they decided to join a new church, Urban Village, and finally found unconditional acceptance. "Life is much simpler only having to be one person within my greater community," Jones says.

The passage of the law feels like a personal victory for both. "It's like we're setting an example — I hope that other states in this wonderful country of ours see and realize that there's nothing wrong with it," Holley says. "I don't have to feel like I'm living an alternative lifestyle because of my sexuality. I can have a family and get married like everybody else."

They're eagerly planning the details of their ceremony: Their guests will wear all white, and one of Jones' military supervisors will fly in from Ohio to serenade them on their special day. Anmarie, of course, will also take part in the ceremony as the flower girl. "Now she fully understands we're a family and she loves that," Holley says.

For Jones, the occasion is particularly momentous. "Being able to get married heals my heart from a lot of pain," says Jones. "I'm looking forward to being able to take a deep breath and say, 'I'm OK.'"
“This is the traditional look I would have done had I been in a church — I feel like a princess or duchess in this dress.” — Ginger Zee

As ‘Good Morning America’s’ Ginger Zee goes from whirlwind romance to wedding bells, she shows off four different dresses — though she’s keeping the real one under wraps until the big day.

BY ZAK STEMER • STYLING BY FRANCESCO BILOTTO • PHOTOS BY BILLY ROOD
It shouldn’t come as a surprise that love struck like lightning for Ginger Zee, the 33-year-old meteorologist and storm chaser for “Good Morning America.” Nearly two years after meeting fiancé Ben Aaron, 32, reporter for NBC’s “New York Live,” Zee can still recall how quickly she fell head over heels. “We met at a work event and walked back across Central Park together. Within a minute of talking to him, I was crazy about him,” she says. The feeling was mutual. “It was one of those moments when you’re like, ‘Yes, this is the girl.’ Instantly I knew,” Aaron says.

On June 7, the former NBC Chicago weather forecaster will tie the knot with Aaron in an outdoor ceremony in Petoskey, Michigan (a five-hour drive from Chicago). It was crucial for Zee, a Michigan native, to have her wedding in her home state — specifically, along the lake where she spent every summer as a child. “Leave it to me to plan a wedding after the coldest winter in 30 years,” she laughs. “It’s a rough time of the year in Northern Michigan. [The weather] can be anything. But I figure I’ve treated weather pretty well my whole life — I think it can give me one day.”

For Zee, planning a wedding was a serious priority adjustment — the ambitious meteorologist has spent most of her life focused on her career. After becoming interested in meteorology in high school, she studied the subject at Valparaiso University before earning her on-air chops here in Chicago from 2006 to 2011 (she still comes back three or four times a year and maintains close ties to local charities like the Brain Injury Association and the Chicago Children’s Choir). When Zee joined “Good Morning America” in 2011, it was the culmination of nearly 15 years of work.

But now, Zee’s experiencing somewhat of a personal climate shift: “I was not one of those girls who dreamed of the day I was going to get married,” she admits. “Never in my entire career have I met someone who, if they needed me to move and I had to stop doing what I’m doing, I’d do that,” she says. “Ben is the first person that’s reminded me that work isn’t first.” Her devotion will be made official as Zee legally takes Aaron’s last name after the “I dos.” Both Zee and Aaron took new surnames for TV (Zee was born Ginger Zuidgeest and Aaron was Ben Colonomos), and while she will continue to use “Zee” on TV, at home she’ll be Mrs. Colonomos.

Zee’s new outlook is understandable — the couple’s story is about as close to a Hollywood rom-com as they come. After their meet-cute in Central Park, the two began dating; their first romantic outing was at Lincoln Center fountain, where they sat listening to music from Aaron’s iPod and people-watching, matching passersby to each song. They laid back and looked up at the sky (an apropos activity for the weather-minded Zee) and ended the night with their first kiss in front of the fountain. “It was really quite cheesy and cute and romantic,” she recalls.

Despite their considerable chemistry, the duo kept things casual at first. “He always says I broke up with him twice, but that’s not true,” Zee says. “We were just dating on and off at first because that’s just how you date.” But as their relationship grew more serious, they started a tradition: meeting each other at the Lincoln Center fountain when they went out — something Aaron now insists he did intentionally to create a memorable proposal spot. “Having her [at Lincoln Center] just reminded me of how excited I was to be with her on that first date,” Aaron says.

In August 2013, he made good on his plans, popping the question to Zee in their special place. Zee, for her part, was totally shocked by the proposal. “I was in my workout clothes, we were supposed to be meeting friends, which was a story he made up,” she says. For ring delivery, Aaron used another staple from their relationship: banana pudding from Magnolia Bakery. “He had the pudding and the ring was inside the box. Not inside the pudding — he wouldn’t want it to get all messy,” Zee laughs. The camera-friendly couple got an appropriately cinematic finishing touch: As a shaky and crying Zee nodded yes, a construction crew working on the fountain burst into applause.

These days, Zee and Aaron have moved on to their next phase as a couple: planning the perfect wedding. So in advance of their big day, we asked Zee to give us the inside scoop on all of the details (hint: it includes beachfront vows, multiple shoes and plenty of intricate, personalized touches).
ZEE'S FIVE-YEAR FORECAST
THE METEOROLOGIST PREDICTS HER FUTURE

SIX MONTHS
"I think we will be in the same place. We even might stay in the same apartment. I think we will be in that honeymoon phase. We keep joking that I never see him because I travel so much — it's going to be the best marriage ever; we never see each other [laughs]."

ONE YEAR
"After a year we will be warding off questions from our parents about when children are coming. We definitely want to have kids. I think we will be thinking about it around there."

FIVE YEARS
"I hope that we at least have started a family. I never know how my work and my life will be balanced, I just know that I want it to be someday. I know he's going to be a great father and if we're not able to have our own kids or something else happens, we both love adoption. Adoption is in our plan either way, whether we can or can't have our own [kids]. I'm up for more [children], he's pretty OK with just one or two, but family will be a big part of the next five years."

THE ENTERTAINMENT
Music for the night will be a family affair: Zee's brother, Sean, will be the main entertainment along with his band The Outer Vibe. But Zee sees the evening turning into a musical free-for-all. "On both sides, our mothers are performers. There's no way that Janice and Dawn are not going to grab a guitar and get up there," she says.

The families will also come together to give the bride and groom a little good-natured ribbing. "We're letting our parents do a toast that's more of a roast for both of us, because, well, we're getting married a little later, you know?" says Zee. She adds that they won't have any shortage of material for jokes. "I've certainly dated some good [guys] ... some not so good."

THE VIBE
Zee's friend and wedding planner Francesco Bilotto is creating an ethereal atmosphere for the small ceremony. The outdoor service will feature a white, ivory and silver color palette, with guests seated in two facing semicircles while Zee and Aaron say their vows in the center, surrounded by rose petals and baby's breath. Zee's love of weather will be reflected in the dining area, which will be decorated with pomegranate balls of flowers designed to resemble snowballs or clouds.

"I need to dance, and this dress screams party." — Ginger Zee
Pink party
Tickled Pink is turning 10 next year — and starting the celebration early with monthly events leading up to its February bash. Join the pre-party June 5 at Edith Hart, where guests can shop, enjoy bites and drinks from Paramount Events and indulge in mini treatments courtesy of Glowout Chicago. Shop labels like Bec & Bridge, Ladakh, Cameo, Ebony Eve and Wildfox and a portion of sales will go to Bright Pink. 6-8 p.m., 1917 N. Damen; Edit hhart.com

Ebony Eve dress, $242, available at Edith Hart

Dapper gents
Food, fashion and philanthropy come together at the Friends of Prentice Gala June 14, where guests can bid on hot-ticket auction item The Tru Frederick Lynn experience. The package includes a multi-course dinner for 10 crafted by Tru chef Anthony Martin in the 2,200-square-foot Frederick Lynn Haberdashery shop (9 E. Huron), a custom suit and a $500 gift certificate to Frederick Lynn, which specializes in hand-sewn, custom-tailored garments. 5:30 p.m.-midnight, tickets start at $600, 600 E. Grand; Friendsofprentice.org

Kids know best
Help dad de-stress this Father's Day by gifting him an Equinox massage package — the sports massage package has a trio of deep pressure treatments ($345), while the three-pack Equissage focuses on posture and training goals ($420). Each 50-minute massage is upgraded to 80 minutes with the packages, available through June 15. Equinox locations citywide; Equinox.com

Visit our website, where:
- "100 Days of Summer" star Jay Michael shares his new reality
- Larsa Pippen gives us the scoop on her life with Scottie
- Food writer Kiki Luthringhausen dishes out delicious recipes
A roaming eye

A witness to history (the 1968 Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia) and an observer of community (the passing, personal moments in the lives of Europe's Roma), photographer Josef Koudelka has long been admired for combining a documentarian's incisiveness, an artist's eye for form and the sensitivity of a citizen of the world. Beginning this week, the Art Institute of Chicago celebrates his work with "Josef Koudelka: Nationality Doubtful."

The curious title of the show stems from the realities of Koudelka's life. Born in Moravia, he spent years crisscrossing Europe, leading a peripatetic existence that so perplexed border guards that on at least one occasion, they marked his passport "nationality doubtful." That life on the road was forced, initially, by fears of retaliation for the searing images he took of the Soviet invasion of his homeland. But it continued as an expression of his nomad's heart, a desire to interact significantly with life and an artist's determination to be forever fresh in his work.

Political situations, cultural ritual and the landscape have all figured into Koudelka's work. His pictures are frequently infused with a sense of desolation and loss. Often, there's a strangeness about his images, an oddness to the scene that makes one wonder what exactly one is looking at. "Koudelka does not want to tell a story — he is after something timeless, rather than of-the-moment," notes Matthew S. Witkovsky, the Richard and Ellen Sandor chair and curator in the Art Institute's department of photography. "Since the early 1960s, he has made a point to return time after time to a place, photographing the same village festival, the same Roma family, the same landscape again and again, until the picture he knows is there becomes the picture in his camera."

While Koudelka's work has received numerous exhibitions, Witkovsky says, "It is our hope that those pictures will come alive as never before, because this is the first exhibition in which the public can see a majority of original materials — both the first or early prints made of famous images, and reproductions of those images in early books and magazines." Included in the show are panoramic landscapes presented in accordion-fold books that extend more than 100 feet in length.

"Koudelka's work is effective as dramatic images and also as rich, captivating prints," notes Witkovsky. "Although I said that Koudelka does not wish to make photographs tell stories, his own story, and the sense of human history that comes through in his pictures, is utterly remarkable."

"Josef Koudelka: Nationality Doubtful"
June 7-Sept. 14; The Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan. (312) 443-3600; Artic.edu
The actress steps out as Sophia in season two of ‘Orange Is the New Black’ BY ELLE EICHINGER

Both on screen and off, ‘Orange Is the New Black’ actress Laverne Cox is undeniably inspiring. Her character Sophia Burset—a transgender woman, like Cox in real life—is a runaway fan favorite and was ranked by Time Magazine as the fourth most influential fictional character of 2013 (and Cox herself graces the magazine’s cover this week). Off camera, Cox is writing a memoir about her family history and gender transition and working the lecture circuit. We caught up with her in time for the release of the Netflix dramedy’s second season.

Musical beginnings
“I had done a few musicals, including ‘Pippin’ and ‘Hair,’ but my first non-musical was ‘Andorra’... I kind of stole the role. I played the village idiot who only grinned and nodded. Everyone was talking about it—even though I had no lines!”

Finding myself
“I saw my friend [recently] and said, ‘I’ve changed a lot since high school’ and she said, ‘No you haven’t.’ I said, ‘I’m a woman [now!’ But she said, ‘You’re the same person.’ The people that have known me my whole life don’t think I’ve changed, which is really kind of beautiful. People think [gender transition] is this whole huge change, but really you’re becoming more yourself.’

Catch season two of ‘Orange Is the New Black’ on Netflix June 6.
Mark Bar: honey almond bar, $24 for a 12-bar box, Freshii, 835 N. Michigan; Markbars.com
“A healthy snack to enjoy between the ceremony and the reception. These honey almond Mark Bars are delicious with zero guilt.”

J. Crew: printed iPhone backup battery, $39.50, 900 N. Michigan; Jcrew.com
“Between the nuptials and late-night dancing, weddings can make for a long day. I always carry an iPhone backup battery to ensure I don’t miss a photo.”

Tieks by Gavrieli: wild copper flats, $265; Tieks.com
“I’m never one to shy away from the dance floor. When the stilettos come off, I dance the night away in these flats, which are easy to store in even the smallest handbag.”

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Jodi Fyfe elevates your summer wedding style

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Tory Burch: Adalyn clutch, $325, Nordstrom, 55 E. Grand; Nordstrom.com
“It dresses up any look and this style is perfect for stashing all of my essentials.”

Morgan Taylor Lacquer: Candy Coated Coral nail polish, $8.50, Polished Nail Salon, 1036 Lake, Oak Park; Morganlakquer.com
“Polished Nail Salon in Oak Park is my go-to for a special occasion manicure. Right now I’m loving Morgan Taylor nail polish in coral.”

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Bare Escentuals: Lash Domination 10-in-1 volumizing mascara, $18, Ulta Beauty locations citywide; Ulta.com
“My go-to beauty product. It lasts all day and never flakes.”

Blowtique: classic blow-out, $35, 1 E. Huron; Blowtique.com
“Between my family and my business, I have little time to primp for special occasions, so I book blow-outs at Blowtique. They are quick and I’m always satisfied with my style.”

ONEHOPE Wine: California pinot noir, $18.99, UnCork-It, 393 E. Illinois; Onehopewine.com
“The perfect wedding gift that keeps on giving. Half of the proceeds of each bottle sold benefit causes like breast cancer, poverty and autism.”

Paramount Events: fennel-melon cooler cocktail; Paramounteventschicago.com
“A signature cocktail is a fun idea for the reception. This wedding season, I’m loving the fennel-melon cooler on my company’s catering menu.”
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Attract the Right Candidates with Consistent Company Branding

By John Rossheim, Monster Senior Contributing Writer

To catch the brightest rising stars and best matches for job openings, savvy companies have long marketed their employer brand in display newspaper ads, on elite college campuses and in other carefully selected forums. Presenting an attractive employer brand with consistent messaging has become more complex as media proliferate, especially online. So it takes expert strategizing and state-of-the-art marketing tools to reach those most desirable employees in the media where they live.

"If you have a brand message that needs to carry across multiple channels, you want to be consistent and portray all of your company brand's features consistently across all media," says Leslie Cope, senior product director at Monster.com. That means using a recognizable graphic presence and consistent messaging about your company wherever you advertise jobs or promote your company.

Why Company Branding Still Matters

Given the current economy, you may be wondering: Why, with so many candidates knocking at your door in this supply-heavy labor market, does it make sense to invest even modestly in branding your company to job candidates? It's the demographics.

"The recession has put a filter on workforce demographics," says Bob Keileher, CEO of Employee Engagement Group in Waltham, Mass. As Boomers continue to retire, the dearth of younger workers will be felt again within a year or two, Keileher says.

James Durban says employer branding knows no season, because "the top people are always looking." Superior company branding can even pay a cash dividend, according to Durbin, a principal with the recruitment firm Social Media Talent.

"Having a good employment brand lets you bring people in for less money." Some companies will find that they can leverage another brand with a strong employment message to build their own image in the labor market. "Small employers that don't have a strong presence elsewhere will benefit from Monster's reach," says Cope. "We drive traffic to both their job postings and Company Profile on Monster." Cope adds that companies can utilize Enhanced Job Branding to integrate their company brand into the job description. "This enables both passive and active job seekers to research both your brand and employment value proposition throughout their job search process.

Using Media to Attract the Right People

More than ever, hiring is about matchmaking. "If you bring on people who aren't well-aligned with your business and your company culture, you're going to lose them," says Jeff Quinn, Global Senior Director, Monster Insights at Monster.com.

The first trick of matchmaking is to narrow the field of potential candidates by being strategic about where you advertise. "Choosing media is about finding out where the right people are," say Durbin.

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ACCOUNTS MANAGER

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- Work with the Advertising Manager and Account Manager to develop and execute strategies to increase revenue.
- Attend client meetings and present in easy to understand terms in presence of key decision-makers.
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The property will be sold to the highest and best bidder at the conclusion of the auction. The auction will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Merger Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5, and the Illinois Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5.

**High Bid:**
The highest and best bidder at the conclusion of the auction shall be entitled to the property.

**Bid Requirements:**
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- All bidders must provide a valid photo identification issued by a government agency.
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The auction will be conducted at the Judicial Sales Corporation, 5110 W. Touhy Ave., Chicago, IL 60639.

**Contact:**
For more information, please call (312) 236-6078.

**Restrictions:**
The property will be sold in its current condition. The sale is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or other taxes, and the purchaser agrees to pay all taxes due and payable on the property.

**Important Notice:**
Any information obtained during the auction will be used for the purposes of the sale and will not be disclosed to any third party.

**Deadline:**
The auction will conclude at 1:00 PM on [insert date]. All bidders must submit their final bids by this time.

**Disclaimer:**
The information provided is for general reference only and may not be accurate. Bidders are advised to verify all information before submitting their bids.

**Conclusion:**
The property will be sold to the highest and best bidder at the conclusion of the auction, in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Merger Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5, and the Illinois Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5. The successful bidder will be entitled to the property subject to all encumbrances.

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Unit # 1128 Healthstar Associates, loc/Kenneth Pinigan/Rusty Pettigrew
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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.
Traci Weingardt & Jon Hermann

Mr. And Mrs. Ronald Weingardt of Highland Park are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Traci to Jon Herrmann of Chicago. Traci is an accomplished musician and noted freelance video editor. Jon is CEO of DotCom Marketing LLC and Vtlex.com and has an accomplished background in audio production and music. The wedding is scheduled to take place at the end of the year on St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands.

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

Go to highschoollcubenews.com or click "SPORTS" on your local newspaper site.
Feeling festive?
Check out these outdoor events

It's time to get in a festive mood, and the easiest way to do so is to attend one of the many festivals that are part of summer in the suburbs.

Greater Chicago Jewish Festival, June 8, St. Paul Woods (Oakton Street west of Lehigh) in Morton Grove. Hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Featuring sights, sounds and smells of Jewish culture for families and singles alike. Artisans with Judaic themes, Kosher food fair, children's hands-on activities, headliners Peter Himelman, Maya Johanna and Edon Pinchot. Free admission.


Fountain Square Art Festi-val, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. June 28-29 at Sherman and Church, Evanston. $5 suggested donation per family at the gate. 225 juried artists. Children's activities from the Evanston Art Center; food and a jazz-centric music lineup. Visit www.evchamber.com.

Morton Grove Days, July 3-6 at the American Legion Memorial Civic Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. 5-11 p.m. Wednesday-Friday; 2-11 p.m. Saturday. Carnival rides and games; a food court, beer garden and live entertainment; with a fireworks show at 9:45 p.m. July 4. Music lineup — Windy City Country, 8:30 p.m. Wednesday; Underwater People, 7:45 p.m. Thursday; Vintage Vinyl, 6 p.m. Friday; Hairbangers Ball, 8:30 p.m. Friday; Cheryl Rodey, 6 p.m. Saturday and Strain Busy Sky, 8:30 p.m. Saturday. See www.mortongrovedays.org.

Chicago Botanic Garden Art Festival, featuring works with a botanical theme by 85 juried artists, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. July 5-6 on the Esplanade at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Free admission; regular parking fees apply. Visit www.chicagobotanicgarden.org.

Des Plaines Summer Fling June 21-22 at Chicago Avenue and Main Street, Evanston. Featuring over 400 artists and craftspeople exhibiting and selling their works, a sidewalk sale, more than 30 food vendors, live entertainment and children's activities. Free admission.

Taste of Park Ridge, July 10-13 at Norridge Community Park, 4631 N. Overhill. Free admission. The event features live entertainment, food vendors and carnival rides. Hours are 5-10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. July 13. Tickets are $10 in advance and $20 at the door. Seniors are $10 and children 10 and under are free. Tickets for Phil Coulter on July 11 are $35, which includes admission to the festival.

Confirmed performers include: Gaelic Storm, Phil Couter, the Tossers, Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones, Dublin City Ramblers, the Killdares, the Mickey Flinn, Kevin Flynn and the Avondale Ramblers, the Chancy Brothers, Red Rebel County, Em-
ish, the Academy of Irish Music, the Larkin and Moran Brothers, the Dooley Brothers, Bualainne Mulligan Stew, Red Rebel County, Emish and Rico Quinn.

Irish and American food and drink, shopping, step dancers, cultural exhibits, children's activities, the Mashed Potato Eating Contest, the ShamROCK Stars singing contest for kids and the Hooley Hook-Up for singles on Friday night.

The Folk Tent offers demos of Irish instruments, dances and sing-alongs. Poetry readings, language lessons, one-act plays and art and museum exhibits available. The Tea Room offers live harp and piano music, a proper cup of tea and sandwiches and an air-conditioned Shamrock American Room.

Back for 2014: The Fine Spirits Tasting Tent with whiskey, beer and mead tastings, visits from Irish Wolfhound dogs, the Men in Kilts Contest, the Craft Beer Tent, the Irish Soda Bread Contest and the Frieleke Festival. New for 2014: Sunday Mass in the Main Tent at 10:30 a.m., Bingo and an outdoor Irish BreakFEST on Sunday.

For information and to purchase tickets, call (773) 252-7035, ext. 10 or visit www.ish-american.org.

**Big Greek Food Fest of Niles, July 18-20** on the grounds of St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church, 7373 Caldwell Ave., Niles. Hours are 5 p.m.-midnight Friday; 3 p.m.-midnight Saturday and Sunday. Featuring authentic Greek food and pastries, children's activities, live music, a Greek taverna, festival dancers, cooking classes and more. Admission: $2 (free before 5 p.m.); $1 seniors; free for children under 12. Visit www.biggreekfoodfestofniles.org.

**Lincolnwood Fest, July 24-27 at Ploesel Park, 6900 N. Lincoln Ave., Lincolnwood. Hours are 5-11 p.m. Thursday, 5-11 p.m. Friday, noon-11 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday. Featuring carnival rides, festival food, beer and wine tent, Bingo, Classic Car Show, Business Expo, Pancake Breakfast and children's activities. Call (847) 885-2439 or visit www.lincolnwoodfest.com.**

**Jeff Fest Arts & Music Festival, July 25-27 at Jefferson Memorial Park, 4822 N. Long Ave., just west of Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago. Hours are 6-11 p.m. Friday; noon-11 p.m. Saturday; noon-10 p.m. Sunday. Main Stage groups are: Friday — According to Sarah 7 p.m.; Shape Shifter 8:30-10 p.m.; Saturday — Diego Sol & The Metronomes 3 p.m.; Draft Week 4:30 p.m.; Tom Schraeder & His Ego 6 p.m.; Nicholas Tremulis 7:30-9 p.m.; Bad Examples 9:30-10:30 p.m.; Sunday — Lane Tech Jazz Band 1 p.m.; Poochamungan-gas 2 p.m.; Jenny Rockis Trio 3:30 p.m.; Four Star Brass Band 5 p.m.; Brushville 6:30-9:30 p.m. Also featuring the Urban Folk Circuit traveling craft market, food trucks, drum circles and a juried art show. Admission is $7, $5 before 5 p.m., or $15 for all three days. Free admission for children ages 12 and under. Coolers and liquor are not permitted. Visit www.jeffest.org.

**North Shore Festival of Art, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. July 26-27 at Westfield Old Orchard Mall, 4999 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. Featuring works by more than 120 juried artists, live music and children's activities. Free admission and parking. Visit www.northshorefestivalofart.com.**

**Folk Festival, Aug. 1-2 in downtown area around the Edison Park Metra Station, 3730 N. Olmsted, Chicago. The event features food, beverages, live music, Family Stage activities, and kids' Play Area. Admission is free. Visit www.edisonpark.com/epfest or call (773) 631-0063.**

**Skokie's Backlot Bash, Aug. 22-24 in a closed-off, two-block portion of Oakton Street, between Lincoln and Laramie avenues adjacent to Village Hall. Hours are 6-10 p.m. Friday; 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday; noon-8 p.m. Sunday. The event features free live music, an amusement park/carnival, 5K run, silent movies at the Skokie Theater, a classic car show, a business expo and sidewalk sale, food and beer, pancake breakfast, Bingo, farmers market, dunk tank, fire hydrant auction, teen dance. Music lineup — Friday: TBA, 6:45 p.m.; Spin Doctors, 8:30 p.m. Saturday: Lisa DeRosia, noon; Corned Beef Hash, 1 p.m.; Paulinho Garcia, 2 p.m.; Sanctified Grumblers, 3 p.m.; Patrick Donley, 4 p.m.; Foreign Shores, 5 p.m.; Funkadesi, 6:30 p.m.; The Original Wailers, 8:30 p.m. Sunday: Bailey Dee Trio, 1 p.m.; Grant Zolkowski Duo, 6 p.m.; Tiny Miles Trio, 3 p.m.; Kevin Purcell and The Nighburners, 4:30 p.m.; Tributosaurus becomes The Doors, 6:15 p.m. Visit www.backlotbash.com.**

**Taste of Polonia Festival, Aug. 29-Sept. 1 at Copernicus Center, 5216 W. Lawrence, Chicago (Jefferson Park). Festival hours: 5-10 p.m. Aug. 29; noon-10 p.m. Aug. 30, Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 (Labor Day); Admission $7, kids 12 and under are free. Live music on 4 stages with over 30 bands — Rock, pop, jazz, polka, dance, world & more. Polish food and Polish beer. Casino, Bingo & full bar (inside the Copernicus Center); kids stage & fun zone (inflatables & climbing wall); over 60 vendors; carnival rides and games. Website: www.ToPchicago.org.**

**Fall Arts & Crafts Adventure, presented by the American Society of Artists 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 20 on the grounds of Hodges Park, 101 S. Courtland (Prospect & Vine by City Hall), Park Ridge. Free admission. Visit www.americansocietyofartists.org.**
Do you have trouble deciding what movies to see? Mrs. Mary Margaret O'Brien, a former nun, offers definitive guidelines in "Movie Bingo: Good, Bad or Condemned?" June 13 and July 11 at the Skokie Theatre.

The movie maven is the creation of Vicki Quade, who has been turning out hilarious one-woman nun shows since she co-authored "Late Nite Catechism" 21 years ago. Quade is the sole author of a handful of other equally amusing, highly interactive shows, employing actors who can think on their feet. Mostly though, Quade herself takes the O'Brien role.

"I've been doing the bingo shows since they were created in 2011," Quade said. Since she's a movie fan, Quade decided to make that a focus of her latest bingo show. "I like looking at religion so these movies all have a kind of religious theme," she related. "I talk about 'The Godfather', which is not our godfather because he doesn't have very much to do with God."

She also talks about sci-fi movies. "The Vatican totally believes in alien life. Where else are we going to get our pagan babies from?" Quade explained.

The show is highly interactive with audience members chiming in about their favorite movies and other movie-related topics. In addition to sharing thoughts on movies, the audience plays six or seven games of bingo. Prizes include movie cards, holy cards and religious trinkets.

Just before intermission, Quade said, "We pick dead movie stars and they have to determine over the break who's in heaven and who's in hell." During the second half of the show, Quade demonstrates a foolproof method of determining the answer to this mystery.

With the audience involved from start to finish, it's a good thing Quade knows movies. "I'm from a movie culture," she related. "I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago. There wasn't much to do. My mom loved to go to movies so we saw lots of movies. Quade added that when she was in her 20s, she and her friends would often go to the mall to watch movies.

Consequently, it's rare for any audience member to suggest a movie Quade doesn't know. "But if I think that they're just doing that to stump me," she said, "I might bring them up and put them in the circle of silence for punishment."

Quade concluded that her show is a "never-ending, audience interaction, love fest and comedy fest."
The new Oriole Park Aquatic Center in Morton Grove opens on June 7 with a celebration including a DJ, games, photo booth — and plenty of swimming.

**Oriole Park opens with a splash for summer**

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

Just in time for summer, the Morton Grove Park District's new Oriole Park Aquatic Center will open on Saturday, June 7 with a gala celebration. The facility at 9200 Oriole Ave. features an activity pool with zero depth entry, an 8-lane lap pool and a bathhouse.

The partying begins in the park at 10:30 a.m. “We will have a DJ playing music, games for the kids, a photo area, a visit from our new mascot Lily, giveaways and a few information tables for the Park District,” said Sue Braubach, wellness and fitness manager. “At 11:45 a.m., there will be an official ribbon cutting ceremony. Doors to the Aquatic Center will open at noon.”

A special entry fee of $3 will be offered that day; admission is free for anyone who has a 2014 pool pass. To avoid waiting in line on opening day, you can purchase a wristband in advance at the Prairie View Community Center, 6834 Dempster.

For details, call (847) 965-1200 or go to www.mortongroveparks.com.

**HAVE GLUMMY FUN**

Kids, teens and adults are all welcome to play Glummy Buckets and Glummy Toss for prizes at a Summer Reading Fun Fair, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday June 7 at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. You can also take pictures at a photo booth, decorate a canvas tote and enjoy refreshments. Register for a Summer Reading Club to get a free ticket to the event.

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

**PET PROJECT**

Preschoolers ages 3 and older can play games and do craft projects celebrating favorite pets, 10 a.m.-noon Wednesday, June 11 at the Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave. Kids and parents can drop in anytime.

For details, call (847) 825-3123 or go to www.parkridgelibrary.org.

**THE REAL THING**

Your family will see both wild and tame animals when Jessica and Steve Reedy present Animal Quest at the Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., 2-2:45 p.m. or 3:30-4:15 p.m. Sunday, June 8. Pick up free tickets at the KidSpace desk 30 minutes before your preferred program.

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

**PARK YOURSELF**

Pack a picnic dinner and lawn chairs or a blanket and head to Proesel Park at Lincoln, Kostner and Morse avenues in Lincolnwood for the Thursday, June 12 opening of the Summer Concert Series. Wind Gypsies will perform danceable music and there will be activities for kids.

For details, call (847) 677-9740 or go to www.lincolnwoodil.org.
Summer fun with a twist

MOMMY ON A SHOESTRING
BY BETH ENGELMAN

Have fun, make memories and keep your children's school skills sharp with these summer enrichment activities.

Poetry Blocks
I love this activity that takes playing with words to a new level. It was inspired by the Edmonton Poetry Festival, which created large-scale poetry blocks for Edmonton's town square.

You need:
Sturdy boxes (any size)
Paint
Alphabet stickers
Directions: Paint boxes as desired, allow time to dry.
Add words with alphabet stickers (or paint). Be sure to include a variety of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs.
When blocks are complete, encourage your kids to play as they build poems, phrases and funny expressions.

Baseball Scorecards
Turn our national pastime into an introduction to statistics. Go to www.baseballscorecard.com to download your FREE scorecards.

Poetry, silly messages — say it with homemade Poetry Blocks.

Summer Reading Bingo
Keep your children's reading skills strong by encouraging them to read all summer long. Not only will it help prevent "reading skill loss," but it shows your kids that reading is a fundamental part of everyday life.

Bring the scorecards to your next baseball game and encourage your children to track the players throughout the game. It's a great activity for siblings who attend each other's games and a fun way to keep everyone happy and engaged (even in extra innings).

Be sure to check out the Kane County Cougars, which is an affiliate team of the Chicago Cubs. Based in Geneva, the Cougars offer family friendly entertainment at affordable prices (and the $5 parking fee is hard to beat). For more information visit www.milb.com.

Family Color Walk
I love this activity that comes courtesy of Kerry Finnegan, director of the Gardner School in Naperville (www.thegardnerschool.com). First, visit your local hardware store and collect paint samples. Then, take your children on a "color walk," where they match the colors from the samples to real items they see in nature.

Not only will this activity improve your children's color recognition skills, but it will also help them learn how to classify objects in small groups.

Collect paint sample cards and take a walk to find something natural outdoors to match the colors you like.

Summer Reading Bingo Challenge
Keep your children's reading skills strong by encouraging them to read all summer long. Not only will it help prevent "reading skill loss," but it shows your kids that reading is a fundamental part of everyday life.

To add a fun twist, download the FREE Bingo Card created by the folks at Open Books, which is a nonprofit bookstore that uses its proceeds to fund literacy programs. The Bingo card is composed of open-ended reading missions that you can create. Or, visit River North Open Books store, 213 W. Institute Place, Chicago, for the official Open Books Summer Reading Bingo Challenge card which, when completed, gets your children one step closer to earning free books.

For more information and to download your FREE Bingo Card, visit www.open-books.org.
**GO CALENDAR**
**BY AGREGO NEWS SERVICE**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 5**

**Les Miserables**
10:45 a.m.: The Norridge Park District Adult Recreation Club hosts a trip to Drury Lane Theatre for the production of "Les Miserables" and lunch. Registration ended May 10. For ages 18 and older. The group departs and returns to the Divine Savior parking lot; Catholic Community of Divine Savior, 7740 W. Montrose Ave., Norridge. Call 708-457-1244, $65-$75.

**Throwback Thursday: National Velvet**
1:30 p.m.: A screening of the 1944 family drama about a former jockey who helps a young girl prepare a horse for England's Grand National Sweepstakes. 125 minutes. Skokie Public Library, 5615 Oakton St., Skokie.

**Travel Film**
2 p.m.: Enjoy a family-friendly travel film. Call 847-825-3123 to find out what movie is playing this week. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge.

**Grilling Out and Beer Pairings**
7 p.m.: Grilling season is finally here. Come join us to learn some new, healthy recipes to try on your grill this summer, and some delicious Whole Foods beers to pair with them. All participants must be 21 and bring a valid driver's license. Whole Foods Market Park Ridge, 225 W. Touhy Ave., Park Ridge. Call 708-903-1476, $10.

**Think Floyd**
7 p.m.: The Chicago-based Pink Floyd cover band performs the legendary rock band's greatest hits. MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont.

**Patti Vasquez**
8 p.m.: WGN 720 AM comedian Patti Vasquez comes to Zanies, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont. Call 847-813-0484. $22.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 7**

**Morton Grove Farmers Market**
8 a.m.: The market features favorites such as seasonal fruits and vegetables, meats, eggs, baked goods, cheeses, honey, hand-crafted items, metals and clothing, prepared foods and more, as well as live music, children's activities and a free drawing. Runs weekly through Oct. 18. Market Grounds, 6200 Dempster St., Morton Grove. For more information, call 847-750-6435.

**Dawning and Shabbat Kiddush**
11:30 a.m.: Enjoy davening followed by a Shabbat Kiddush with hot cholent, salads and cakes. Everyone is welcome. Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie. For more information, call 847-677-1770.

**Movie in the Park: Star Trek Into Darkness**
6 p.m.: Captain Kirk and the crew of the Enterprise must find and stop the source of terror that's hidden within the organization. 122 minutes. Bulger Park, 1800 Hirsch St., Melrose Park.

**Amr Diab**
7 p.m.: The Egyptian singer, who is known as the "Father of Mediterranean Music," performs. Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River Road, Rosemont. $29-$300.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 8**

**Graduation Breakfast**
8:30 a.m.: Graduates and their families are invited for breakfast and a recognition of their accomplishments. All level graduates are invited. Contact the PRPC office to register. Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, 1300 W. Crescent Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-823-4135.

**Greater Chicago Jewish Festival**
11 a.m.: Peter Himelmann will headline this year's Greater Chicago Jewish Festival. The festival is truly the heart and soul of Jewish Chicago. In the event of rain, the festival will be held at Niles West High School, 5500 W. Okstan St., Morton Grove. Call 847-933-3000, $5 suggested donation; children and seniors free.

**Book & Author: Isaac Levendel**
1:30 p.m.: Six years of research contributed to "Hunting Down the Jews: Vichy, Nazis and Mafia Collaborators in Provence 1942-1944," by Isaac Levendel's penetrating analysis of Nazi and Vichy antisemitic policy. A book signing will follow. Reservations required; email reservations@ilhmec.org. Illinois Holocaust Museum, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie.

**GlenVIEWINGS Film Series: Inside Llewyn Davis**
1:30 p.m.: A young folk singer struggles to make it in the Greenwich Village folk scene circa 1961. Directed by the Coen Brothers; music composed by T-Bone Burnett. Pair this film with the Pete Seeger & The Power of Song performance (June 10). Just drop in. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview. For more information, call 847-729-7500.

**Concert: American History Through Folk Song**
2 p.m.: Two accomplished musicians, Pat Gaughan and L.J. Stavin, tell the story of our American heritage starting with songs of the Revolutionary War and traveling through time to the post-Civil War era. They will perform love songs, songs of Irish immigrants, and music with African American and Hispanic roots. Morton Grove Public Library, 6640 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

**Geraldo Ortiz and Julion Alvarez**
7 p.m.: Geraldo Ortiz and Julion Alvarez perform. Allstate Arena, 6020 Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Call 847-635-6601.

**MONDAY, JUNE 9**

**Trivia Night**
6 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, JUNE 10**

**Film: 'Kiss Me Kate'**
11:30 a.m.: Cole Porter's musical version of Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew" brings together a squabbling, divorced pair of actors. The cast includes Kathryn Grayson, Howard Keel and Ann Miller. 100 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 9640 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

**Feature Film: 'Dallas Buyers Club'**
2 p.m.: The drama about a hustler in 1985 Dallas who works around the system to help AIDS patients get the medication they need. Stars Matthew McConaughey, Jennifer Garner and Jared Leto. 117 minutes. A second show begins at 7 p.m. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

**Froebel Block Workshop**
6 p.m.: The whole family is invited to discover the fun and excitement of building with Froebel blocks. Eisenhower Public Library, 4616 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-867-7828.

**Lil' Lounge Book Discussion: 'Shine, Shine, Shine'**
7 p.m.: When fabricated aspects of their picture-perfect world are embarrassingly exposed by a car accident, Sunny Mann, a woman longing for an ideal life, and Mason, her savant astronaut husband, struggle through blame and fear before confronting realities about their deep bond. This monthly book group is co-sponsored by the Morton Grove Public Library and the Skokie Public Library. Currach Irish Pub, 8286 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-965-4220.

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

**FRIDAY, JUNE 13**

**Bibliobop**
10 a.m.: The whole family is invited to dance with their little ones. Nile Public Library District, 6960 W. Okston St., Nile. Call 847-663-1234.
GO CALENDAR

Carl Sandburg's American Songbag
2 p.m.: Poet Carl Sandburg, an avid collector of folk songs, performed them at his poetry readings. Accompanied by his dulcimer, Phil Plassen explores Sandburg's collection of Americana, with words, music and history on each song. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. For more information, call 708-867-7828.

Dinner Theater:
Broadway at Mather's
4:30 p.m.: The BYOB evening includes dinner and a live guitar and vocal performance by Stu Frank. Mather's, 7134 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago. Call 773-774-4804. $12 suggested donation.

John Green Fan Night
5 p.m.: Celebrate the movie release of "The Fault in Our Stars" with other teen fans. The event includes team trivia, "The Fault in Our Stars" with other teen film stars Dick Powell as Philip Marlowe, Raymond Chandler's hard-boiled private detective, in a film noir mystery also starring Claire Trevor. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 773-965-4220.

SUNDAY, JUNE 15

Daddy Olympics
1 p.m.: Hey dads, show off your skills at the pool on Father's Day. Dads will jump through hoops, change their babies and even play a little golf. Hinkley Pool, 25 Busse Highway, Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-692-6602. Free with pool admission.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

Decorative Mail Art
Noon: Learn how to create decorative envelopes in this workshop. Mather's, 7134 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago. For more information, call 773-774-4804. $12 suggested donation.

Norman Brown
5:30 p.m.: The Grammy Award-winning smooth jazz guitarist and singer performs, along with special guest Brian Simpson. Additional performance at 9 p.m. InterContinental O'Hare Hotel and Gallery, 5300 N. River Road, Rosemont. $59-$69.

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

Meet the Artist: Jacob Padul
2 p.m.: Local nature photographer Jacob Padul shares coffee and perspectives on his exhibition "Beauty Through the Lens." The exhibition is on display on the third floor. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. For more information, call 847-663-1234.

Critics' Choice Cinema:
'2 Autumns, 3 Winters'
2 p.m.: Over the course of two autumns and three winters, Arman, Amelie and Benjamin share the incidental moments, unexpected accidents, unconventional love stories and unforgettable memories that will define who they are. Call 847-929-5101 or check out the Movies & More page on www.mgpl.org to learn more. French with English subtitles; runtime is 90 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. For more information, call 847-965-4220.

MONDAY, JUNE 23

What's on Your Plate?
Tips for Growing Healthy Eaters
10 a.m.: Learn how to build a healthy plate using all the different food groups. For children ages 3-5 with an adult. Norridge Park District, 4631 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge. For more information, call 708-457-1244. $2-$4.
**EDGEOFTOMORROW**

Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi action and violence, language and brief suggestive material.

Stars: Tom Cruise, Emily Blunt, Bill Paxton, Brendan Gleeson

This smart, funny, wildly inventive sci-fi time-twister is a major score for the mildly self-mocking star and a return to fine form for director Doug Liman (“Bourne Identity,” “Mr. and Mrs. Smith”) and co-screenwriter Christopher McQuarrie (“The Usual Suspects”). After being killed moments into a disastrous battle with invading aliens, smarmy army PR guy Cruise discovers he’s reliving the battle over and over and over (a la “Groundhog Day”) with the fate of mankind riding on him — and the film’s true action hero, a female super soldier (Blunt, terrific).

**THEFAULTINOURLASTS**

Rated PG-13 for thematic elements, some sexuality and brief strong language.

Stars: Shailene Woodley, Ansel Elgort, Willem Dafoe, Laura Dern

Two teens (Woodley and Elgort) fall in love in a cancer support group. Josh Boone (“Stuck in Love”) directed the romance based on the young-adult bestseller.

**WORDSANDPICTURES**

Rated PG-13 for sexual material including nine sketches, language and some mature thematic material.

Stars: Clive Owen, Juliette Binoche, Bruce Davison

A burned-out high-school creative writing teacher (Owen) and the school’s new art teacher (Binoche) become involved in an emotionally charged rivalry. Fred Schepisi (“Six Degrees of Romance”) directed the romance.

**CHINESEPUZZLE**

Rated R for sexual content, nudity and language.

Stars: Romain Duris, Audrey Tautou, Cecile De France

A French novelist (Duris) relocates to New York after the mother of his children (Tautou) moves there with them. The third in a series of romantic comedies written and directed by Cedric Klapisch.

**MALEFICENT**

Rated PG for sequences of fantasy action and violence, including frightening images.

Witchy woman: Angelina Jolie is “Maleficent.”

Stars: Angelina Jolie, Elle Fanning, Sharlo Copley, Sam Riley

It’s disappointing to learn that in Disney’s new, visually impressive but dramatically bankrupt rethink of the evil sorceress from “Sleeping Beauty,” she’s really no so bad after all. Not even a witch when you get right down to it. Just a fairy-gone-wrong. Oscar-winning production designer Robert Stromberg makes “Maleficent” look great, but that’s about all, despite a fabulous performance from Jolie when she’s allowed to be bad, though that’s not nearly long enough.

**AMILLIONWAYSTODIEDENTHEWEST**

Rated R for strong crude and sexual content, language throughout, some violence and drug material.

Stars: Seth MacFarlane, Charlize Theron, Liam Neeson, Neil Patrick Harris, Sarah Silverman

It’s not “Blazing Saddles” or even “Evil Roy Slade,” but Seth MacFarlane’s rude and raunchy old-west comedy is more clever than you might expect, now and then, and it’s even funny at its stupidest thanks to an exceedingly game supporting cast. MacFarlane himself is oddly bland and hipster-inexpressive in his in-person acting debut (after playing the voice of the titular foul-mouthed teddy bear in his mega-hit “Ted”) as a sheep farmer in the high-mortality-rate town of Old Stump, where he falls for the wife (Theron) of the territory’s baddest outlaw (Neeson).

**BLENDED**

Rated PG-13 for crude and sexual content.

Stars: Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore

The mere fact that it isn’t “Grownups 3” is reason enough to view the latest Adam Sandler comedy as an improvement, but it also helps that Drew Barrymore is part of the mix. Barrymore has a way of bringing out the best in Sandler. She did it in 1998’s “The Wedding Singer” and 10 years ago in “50 First Dates.” And she does it here as a single mom with two boys forced to share a family vacation with widower Sandler and his three girls. Still, every time “Blended” starts to achieve a little sophistication it quickly devolves to dumb default mode.
It's time for a fun and engaging way to end your work day. Register for free now to receive our newsletters & read all about the day's news highlights as you head home.

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Movie times are effective Friday, June 6, through Thursday, June 12. Please note that theater schedules are subject to change.

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www.cinemark.com
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REGAL GARDENS STADIUM 1-6
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AMC SHOWPLACE NILES 12
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Directed by
Joe
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Shabbat Service - Saturdays 9:30 AM
Jr. Congregation, Tot Shabbat,
Torah Time 10:30 AM
Followed by Kiddush
Daily Minyan 7 AM & 7:30 PM
Rabbi Dr. Michael Gottesman
Cantor Pavel Roytman
Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township
Jewish Congregation
4500 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076
847-675-4114
Kabbalat Shabbat Fridays 6:00 PM
Shabbat Service - Saturdays 9:30 AM
Jr. Congregation, Tot Shabbat,
Torah Time 10:30 AM
Followed by Kiddush
Daily Minyan 7 AM & 7:30 PM
Rabbi Dr. Michael Gottesman
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pastorcranford@gmail.com
Sunday Service: 11:30 AM
Sunday School: 10 AM
Bible Study: Wednesday, 7 PM
Intercessory Prayer:
Sunday & Tuesday & Friday, 7:30 AM
Rev. Dr. Clarence Cranford, Jr., Pastor
Elizabeth W. Cranford, 1st Lady

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Meinke, Dolores E. (nee Lindmark) Age 82, of Skokie. Retired art teacher, Skokie School District No. 69, and worked many years in the Meinke Family Garden Center, Niles; member, Niles Chamber of Commerce. Beloved wife of Henry J.; dearest mother Henry James (Luanne); loving grandmother of Henry Colin and Sarah; fond sister of the late Robert Lindmark; dear aunt of Carl, Robert George, Mark, Scott and the late John Lindmark. Visitation was Wednesday, May 28, at HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory, Skokie. Funeral Service was Thursday, May 29, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Skokie. Interment followed in St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery, Skokie. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church, 5201 Galitz Ave., Skokie, IL 60077. Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or www.habenfuneral.com.
Express Condolences

Sign the online Guest Book

For local community Death Notices visit pioneerlocal.com

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

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**HOROSCOPES: JUNE 11 — JUNE 17**

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Things that usually come easily and quickly for Aries might need more of your time and attention during the next several days. Try to be patient as you work things out.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** A changing situation can create some complications. If you apply that to letting Bovine mind to the hopeless tangle of confusion, you'll soon sort things out.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Creating a new look for your surroundings is fun. Expect to hear mostly positive comments on your efforts, as well as some well-intended suggestions.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** Maybe you'd rather do anything else than what you're "stuck with." But if you stop complaining, you might see how this could lead to something with real potential.

**LEO (July 23 to August 22)** A proud Leo ultimately recovers from hurt feelings. However, a damaged relationship will never heal unless you're willing to spend more time trying to work things out.

**VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** There are lots of changes on the horizon, so be prepared to make some adjustments in your usually fine-tuned life.

**LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Being the dependable person you are could work in your favor for a project that requires skill and accountability. But be careful, there could be hidden problems.

**SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** A temperamental outburst about a mishandled project causes some fallout. Be sure to couple an apology with an explanation.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Changing horses in midstream is usually unwise but sometimes necessary. Examine your options carefully before making a decision.

**CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** While much of your time is involved with business matters, fun-time opportunities open up by week's end. Enjoy yourself, but don't overspend.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** A "revelation" opens your eyes to what is really going on in the workplace. What you learn might make a difference in your career path.

**PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** Not wanting to make waves might be the safest way to deal with a difficult situation. But no changes can be made unless you share your assessments.
**CAR STORY**

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**My 1965 Ford Mustang Convertible**

Phillip and Rosetta Paige of Olympia Fields

In 1969, my junior year in college, my father co-signed for me to buy a 1966 red Mustang convertible from daughter of former heavyweight champion Joe Louis' daughter Jackie, who was our pastor's friend. I loved that car and thought I would never part with it.

My then-girlfriend and now-wife of 45 years and I went on our first date in the Mustang, and she was learning to drive in it. She put a dent in it while I was instructing her, and she wouldn't drive it again.

I got a corporate position with a company car and was living in an apartment with no place to store it, so I sold my beloved Mustang. One year later we brought our first home with a garage, and I promised myself and my wife we would get another Mustang convertible.

I was able to find the 1965 Mustang in time for our 25th wedding anniversary in 1994, and I occasionally let my wife drive it. Who am I kidding? After 45 years of marriage she's the boss and lets me know when I can drive it.
Auto sales rise 4 percent

Car sales increased 4 percent in Niles in March on a month-over-month basis, as residents of Niles purchased three more trucks and cars in March than in the previous month.

In the month of March, Nissan was the top-selling make to Niles residents with a total of 13 sales. The 13 Nissan sales in the month broke down into nine new and four used.

Toyota and Ford rounded out the top three makes in overall sales (both new and used) with nine and five sales, respectively, during the month.

The previous month, Nissan topped the overall auto sales chart for Niles residents with a total of 16 sales, followed by Honda (nine sales) and Toyota (eight).

In March, 63 percent of all car sales to Niles residents came through a local auto dealership, while this share was at 67 percent the previous month. The 63 percent share of sales in March translated to 45 total dealer sales (and 27 private sales), compared with 46 total dealer sales (23 private) the month before.

Top car dealerships selling to Niles residents in March included Star Nissan, Bredemann Lexus in Glenview and Al Pimonte Nissan. The previous month, Star Nissan, Bredemann Toyota and Jennings Chevrolet topped the chart of dealerships selling to Niles residents.

The breakdown of all auto sales in March was 40 percent new and 60 percent used. The most popular make bought used in the month was Toyota, while the top new make was Nissan. The previous month, 52 percent of the 69 total auto purchases by residents were used vehicles. Honda was the most popular auto brand bought used that month, while Nissan was the top new auto maker purchased new.
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New Trier thrilled with third-place finish

Glenbrook South's Luke Pilliod set personal bests on back-to-back days, placed third

BY MATT HARNESS
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New Trier didn't get the state championship it craved in the 4x800-meter relay at the Class 3A boys track and field state meet, but Peter Cotsirilos said the Trevians were thrilled to take third place.

New Trier's time of 7 minutes, 44.27 seconds Saturday at Eastern Illinois University would have been the top time in three of the last five state meets. Neuqua Valley's winning time of 7:40.21 was the fastest time since 2006.

"Performance-wise, we were all happy," said Cotsirilos, who also earned a state medal by taking ninth in the 1,600 in 4:13.22. "Going in we thought we had a legitimate shot at a state title. As it panned out, with how fast it ended up being, it was probably unrealistic for us.

"But we are extremely happy with third place."

Along with Cotsirilos, senior Chase Silverman, senior Connor Trapp and sophomore Ted Oh ran on the distance relay. Cotsirilos (Cal Poly), Silverman (Cornell) and Trapp (Connecticut College) all plan to run cross country and track in college.

Evanston

Ultimately, Evanston coach Don Michelin said he didn't believe junior Carl Klam was ready to run the 400 and 800 at this season's state meet. Klam qualified in the 800, but Michelin decided not to have him run the event in the state prelims.

"I think that's a senior move to do," Michelin said. "We wanted to take a look at it and it's something that's doable, but I think it's going to be next year."

Klam still made a difference for the Wildkits at O'Brien Stadium by placing sixth in the 400 in a career-best 48.51.

He also anchored the 4x400 relay team that finished fourth in 3:17.86. Klam ran with senior Josh Hopson, senior Aremon Alagehband and senior Roman Hayes. Michelin said Klam ran a 47.48 on the fourth leg.

"Tremendous effort by those four guys," Michelin said. "There were a bunch of fast times down there, and it made us be at our best.

Glenbrook South

Despite the initial disappointment of not advancing to state in the 110 high hurdles, Luke Pilliod said after the sectional meet that he considered qualifying in only one hurdles event to be a blessing.

"It could work out best for me," he said two weeks ago.

He was right. Pilliod ran a personal-best time of 38.82 in Friday's prelims, bettering the mark of 38.83 he set at the sectional, before capping his career in the finals with a 38.19 that placed him third in Class 3A.

Pilliod was the program's first medal winner in the event since Jon Howard took seventh in 2007.

Northridge

Forest Moses overcame one big obstacle on his way to taking 10th in the high jump at the Class 1A boys track and field state finals at Eastern Illinois University.

"We don't have any equipment at the school," Northridge coach Michael Egle said. "He's doing everything wherever we go for meets. That puts him at a disadvantage, but we do the best with what we have."

In his third trip to Charleston, Moses, who holds the program record at 6 feet, 5 inches, managed to make it to the finals for the first time. He cleared 6-1 to miss out on a medal by two inches and one place in the standings.

"What he's done in that event is amazing," Egle said of the Independent School League's male track and field athlete of the year. "He's definitely one of the best high jumpers around."

Notes

Niles West senior thrower Dennis Gargovic came up short in his quest to compete in the state finals. Gargovic got a mark of 50-2.5 in the shot put and 147-10 in the discus during the prelims. His distance in the shot put was less than two feet from advancing.

Niles North junior Adrian Coardos also narrowly missed out on getting to the second day. He went 43-11.25 in the triple jump, while the final jumper to make the finals went 44-11.5. ... Glenbrook North's Scott Thomas finished with a time of 1:58.14 in the 800 prelims and didn't advance to the finals.
Young Vikings count on experience in 2015

BY MIKE CHAMERNIK
For Sun-Times Media, @MikeChamernik

Though this season ended prematurely for the Niles North baseball team, which lost 3-1 to Maine West in the Class 4A Von Steuben Regional semifinals, the Vikings will have something next year that was in short supply in 2014: experience.

At times during the regular season and in its May 28 playoff game, Niles North players tried to do too much. The young team was eager to make plays, but a little too impatient — pitchers would overthrow, leading to flat pitches, and batters would pull out during at-bats from swinging too hard.

"That happened because we had players who really wanted to do well, but we had young guys who were struggling at various points and they thought like they had to pick them up or do extra," coach Ed Toledo said. "That really doesn't work too well in our sport."

The team won't be green in 2015. Niles North is expected to have seven returning starters, including four seniors: first baseman Tyler Egan, pitcher-outfielder Eric Wheeler, pitcher-outfielder Tony Granato and catcher Anthony Sanchez.

Sanchez and Granato have the most experience. Sanchez has played on the varsity since his freshman season, and Granato was called up during his freshman year.

Sanchez was an all-conference catcher this season, and Toledo said he can be a weapon behind the plate. Sanchez has a strong arm and isn't afraid to try to throw runners out. Granato is one of the team's best pitchers and can play center field.

They are valuable at bat, too. Sanchez bats second and is skilled at reaching base, while Granato, batting third, can drive runners home with singles and doubles. Egan hit clean-up behind them.

"It's almost like every game I would get on and he would drive me in," Sanchez said of Granato. "That's what was very key between the two, three and four. It was like a rock in the lineup where we always got one or two runs coming from those three guys."

Niles North finished 15-21 and was a No. 9 seed in the sectional playoffs. Most of the team will play on Niles North's summer league team. Mix that with this season and it should ease the inexperience factor.

"We were a young team this year and we went above and beyond our expectations," Granato said. "Our experience was good. Hopefully we can use it next year and go a little farther in the playoffs."
Cook, Cloud garner NESCAC honors

BY NICK BULLOCK
For Sun-Times Media, @HSCNewsNorth

Two New Trier alumni were recently named to the All-New England Small College Athletic Conference baseball teams. Amherst junior pitcher John Cook made the first team and Williams College freshman outfielder Jack Cloud made the second team.

Cloud, a Wilmette native, was the only freshman on either all-NESCAC team. He played in all 29 games for the Ephs. He led the team in triples (four), batting average (.402) and slugging percentage (.526), and finished first among regulars in on-base percentage (.463). He finished the year with a 6-1 record and Ferri recorded a team-best four saves.

Cook, a Winnetka native, helped lead the Lord Jeffs to a 30-11 record, including a 9-3 NESCAC mark. He finished the season with a 1.56 ERA, a 6-3 record and two complete games in nine starts. He led the team in strikeouts with 67, finished second in innings pitched with 64 2/3, walked only six batters all season and held opposing batters to a .227 average.

New Trier graduate Eric West was a teammate of Cook’s at Amherst. The junior first baseman and third baseman started 22 games and appeared in 24. He finished the season a .256 batting average, a .306 on-base percentage and a .372 slugging percentage.

Hobart lacrosse player Grant Soucy, a Lake Zurich alumna, received the Rookie Award at the Hobart Athletics Department’s annual Block H Awards Dinner April 28. The freshman defender started all 15 games for the Statesmen. He produced 22 ground balls and forced nine turnovers. With his help, the Statesman advanced to the Northeast Conference tournament championship game.

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Stegich’s big play helps make regional final memorable

BY DAN SHALIN  
For Sun-Times Media, @danshalin

WINNETKA — At Niles West, a 1-0, nine-inning loss to New Trier in the Class 4A New Trier Regional baseball final almost certainly will be remembered for the pitching duel between Wolves senior lefty Chad Thompson and New Trier senior righty Matt Cohen.

But one defensive play Saturday should live long in Niles West fans’ memories. Junior center fielder Tyler Stegich did all the right things with a catch and throw to nail the Trevians’ Frank Nicholas at the plate for the third out of the sixth inning.

"Just a tremendous effort out of Tyler Stegich, with the game on the line," Niles West coach Garry Gustafson said. "A lot can happen. If the ball takes a hop [on the way to the plate], it can bounce away. He just threw a dart. It kept us in the game.

"To come up and set his feet and throw a strike the way he did ... that was a big-league play."

By the sixth inning, it was obvious one run was likely to make the difference.

The Trevians had runners on second and third and one out when pinch hitter Max Thoma, a senior, hit the ball to mid-center. Stegich made the catch and throw. Senior catcher Matt DeLaVega applied the tag on the sliding Nicholas, a senior right fielder who is one of the Trevians’ fastest runners.

Stegich said he didn’t know it was Nicholas on base, but said the play was one an outfielder dreams of making.

"It is memorable because you don’t get that many opportunities to do that," Stegich said. "I lined it up perfectly and it just happened, and it felt good. After I threw it, I was like, ‘Wow, this might have a chance.’ I thought it was a little to the right from where I was standing, but Matt put the tag on perfectly."

DeLaVega said the play didn’t require too much extra effort on his part.

"It was right there," he said. "Right when he threw the ball, I knew it was going to be fine. I knew he had a strong arm.

"Right there, after the play, I was thinking we were going to win the game."

DeLaVega was not alone. After the play, there was a buzz in the crowd and the Wolves rushed out of the dugout to give Stegich high fives and hugs.

However, Niles West was unable to score after a leadoff hit batter in the top of the seventh.

The game went to extra innings. Thompson was removed after giving up back-to-back hits to lead off the bottom of the ninth.

Stegich said he was not surprised he was put into the shortstop role in the middle of the game.

"I actually knew the ball was going to come to me and I felt like I was in the position where I belonged," he said. "At shortstop I actually knew the ball was going to come to me and I felt like I was in the position where I belonged."

With the bases loaded and infield in, Stegich fielded a sharply hit grounder and fired to DeLaVega to force senior catcher Logan Wible at the plate.

One batter later, with first base open and no force at the plate, another hard chopper was hit toward Stegich. This time, Stegich bobbled slightly and the winning run scored.

Stegich said he was disappointed he could not make a third spectacular play, but said he was glad Gustafson had shown so much faith by throwing him into that spot with the game on the line. Stegich said that in key moments, he hopes the ball gets hit to him.

"It’s good to know Gustafson trusts me in those situations," he said. "[At shortstop] I actually knew the ball was going to come to me and I felt like I was in the position where I belonged."

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Major League Baseball’s career hits leader was incredibly durable. For 20 straight seasons, from age 22 until age 42, Pete Rose never once went on the 15-day disabled list. Fact is, in only one of those seasons did Rose miss even 15 games played. His 44-game hitting streak is tied for second all time with Willie Keeler, but can you name the only two players in big-league history to post two hitting streaks of at least 35 games? They were Hall of Famers Ty Cobb and George Sisler.

First baseman Ike Davis was traded from the Mets to the Pirates early in the 2014 Major League Baseball season. Shortly after his arrival in Pittsburgh, Davis blasted a grand slam against Cincinnati. In so doing, he became just the third player in big league history to hit grand slams for different teams against the same opponent in the same year. The others were Mike Piazza for the Dodgers and Mets against Arizona in 1998, and Roy Boone for the Indians and Tigers against the St. Louis Browns in 1953.

In most professional sports, players are expected to play with pain. Especially in football and hockey, it comes with the territory. But perhaps no player ever took it to the extreme that Toronto defenseman Bob Baun did in game 6 of the 1964 Stanley Cup finals against Detroit. Baun broke his right leg in the third period, but the game was tied 3-3 at the end of regulation. So Baun went to the locker room, took a shot of Novocaine, and went out and scored the game-winning goal in overtime.

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HEARTBREAKER

Niles West loses 1-0 in nine innings to New Trier in regional final

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