**Bishop's blessing for pope**

New memorial honoring now-Saint John Paul II draws crowd for its dedication | PAGE 5
**New Listing**

- **Morton Grove**
  - **Seta Ajram**
  - **$475,000**
  - **773-467-5300**
  - **Eileen Hoban**
  - **847-724-5800**

- **Niles**
  - **John Papas**
  - **$349,900**
  - **847-384-7563**

- **Morton Grove**
  - **Hsia Fomina**
  - **$324,900**
  - **847-384-7563**

- **Morton Grove**
  - **$299,900**
  - **847-724-5800**
  - **Steve Malone**
  - **312-966-4063**

- **Morton Grove**
  - **$299,900**
  - **5100ROLE.INFO Pauline Vaur 773-714-2094**

- **Morton Grove**
  - **$299,900**
  - **847-945-7100**

- **Niles**
  - **$255,000**
  - **8722Sherman.info Debbie Brooks 847-945-7100**

- **Morton Grove**
  - **$249,000**
  - **847-724-5800**
  - **Patricia Furnan**
  - **447-272-5800**

- **Morton Grove**
  - **$259,000**
  - **847-724-5800**
  - **Paula McGrath**
  - **8634Capri.info Cheryl O'Rourke 847-724-5800**

- **Niles**
  - **$255,000**
  - **847-724-5800**
  - **Shaun Raugstad ABR 847-724-5800**

- **Morton Grove**
  - **$249,000**
  - **847-724-5800**
  - **Teresa Spyrka**
  - **847-384-7569**

- **Morton Grove**
  - **$249,000**
  - **847-724-5800**
  - **Steve Malone**
  - **847-222-8672**

- **Morton Grove**
  - **$899,000**
  - **847-384-7569**
  - **Cheryl O'Rourke**
  - **847-724-5800**

- **Morton Grove**
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COMMUNITY

Battle against gun shop continues

Despite being approved by the Niles Village Board, opponents of a Niles gun shop are trying to rally school districts against the range. PAGE 7
Niles

Bishop dedicates John Paul II shrine at Maryhill Cemetery

BY PAM DEFIGLIO
For Sun-Times Media

One of the most solemn moments in Bishop Andrew Wypych's dedication of the St. John Paul II shrine at Niles' Maryhill Cemetery Saturday morning came after the bishop sprinkled holy water on the 32-foot tall granite obelisk. Wypych took off his large gold necklace, holding up its cross to face the shrine. The bishop spent several moments in prayer blessing the new monument.

Earlier, Wypych had explained that the cross contained a relic of the sash then-Pope John Paul II wore in 1981 when an assailant shot him. John Paul II credited the Virgin Mary, to whom he had a deep prayer devotion, for saving his life, according to the National Catholic Reporter. He forgave his attacker and continued as pope until his death in 2005. The Catholic church canonized him in April.

Rev. Michael Meany, pastor of Niles' St. John Brebeuf Church, explained later that Catholicism values tangible physical objects, called relics, associated with saints or holy people.

"You have a part of them, and that's with you in love and spirit — that's why it [the John Paul II relic] is such a meaningful thing for Wypych," said Meany, who took part in the prayer service and dedication with the bishop Saturday.

The Knights of Columbus, a Catholic men's organization, and the Polish Highlanders, a Polish American association, also took part, starting the dedication service with a procession up an aisle between seated guests. About 200 people, many Poles and Polish Americans, came out for the ceremony, which took place under blue skies and pleasant 70-degree temperatures.

The Lira Singers, a Polish fine-arts ensemble, performed Polish sacred music a cappella both before and during the dedication. Their colorful traditional Polish dresses, in addition to the Knights of Columbus' black capes and plumed hats and the Polish Highlanders' traditional costumes, reminiscent of their Polish mountain villages, lent an air of pageantry to the service.

Polish-born Bishop Wypych, who is one of seven auxiliary bishops in the Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago, opened the dedication service by speaking about his admiration for the former pope.

"We evoke the past to sanctify the present so we can reflect for the future," Wypych said. "This obelisk has all these elements in it."

He thanked Paul Pickel, who had come from Conrad Pickel Studios in Vero Beach, Florida, for the ceremony, for crafting the beautiful artwork on the four-sided obelisk.

Two of the sides feature high-relief carvings of John Paul II, a third has a mosaic image of Our Lady of Guadalupe (also called Our Lady of the Americas, to whom Mexicans have a special devotion). The mosaic work is made of colorful glass tiles, some of which are embedded with gold leaf.

Wypych urged Catholics to cherish those who preceded them, who might be buried in a cemetery like Maryhill, not just as relatives but also as brothers and sisters in faith. He also encouraged them to influence the world for good.

After the recitation of prayers, Wypych sprinkled holy water on the four sides of the shrine to bless it.

Roman Szabelski, executive director of Catholic Cemeteries for the Archdiocese of Chicago, invited attendees to learn more about Catholic cemeteries, saying they could purchase grave plots, either full-body or for cremated remains, near the St. John Paul II shrine. That prompted Wypych to note it would be nice to be buried there, having the saint, whom he called Saint John Paul the Great, interceding with God for them for all time.

"I don't know how much it costs, but it will be a good deal," Wypych quipped.

Wypych also noted that Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo was Polish. Przybylo was in attendance, along with Niles Village Manager Steve Vinezeano.

After the service, Przybylo said of the shrine, "For me, it's a great spiritual opportunity as a Catholic, but also a historical opportunity for many who aren't Catholic to come here and learn about St. John Paul II's greatness."
Abe Selman, former Niles trustee and manager, dies

By Jennifer Johnson

Abe Selman, a long-time Niles resident who later relocated to Buffalo Grove, died Friday at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. He was 82.

Selman was elected village trustee in 1977 and served until 1989 when, as he later told the Niles Herald-Spectator, some of his fellow trustees approached then-mayor Nicholas Blase with the idea that he be considered for the next village manager.

Selman, who had risen to the position of director of research and development during a 35-year career with Natural Gas Pipeline of America, was subsequently appointed Niles village manager and resigned as an elected official.

"I thought it might be there for two years ... well, it's been 12," Selman told the Herald-Spectator as he prepared to retire in 2002 at the age of 70.

Under Selman's leadership, several new village facilities were constructed, including the current Village Hall, the Public Services Building, the Niles Senior Center and the Niles Family Fitness Center. Selman also oversaw major renovation of the village's Leaning Tower in the mid-90s, and plans for the current police station at Touhy and Milwaukee avenues were developed just prior to his retirement.

He was also proud of the technology in-roads made by the village, which went from having one staff computer in 1989 to having more than 200 computers 12 years later.

Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo, who served as a trustee during Selman's tenure as village manager, credited Selman for these major capital projects.

"He was very, very professional and very much a hands-on manager," Przybylo recalled. "He knew exactly what was going on most of the time."

Przybylo also called Selman "a loyal friend," with whom he traveled to Pisa, Italy, a sister city of Niles, alongside a local delegation.

"It was never-ending fun and always stimulating conversation," Przybylo said of the excursion.

An Illinois State House resolution passed in Selman's honor upon his retirement from the village 14 years ago cited his years of involvement in the Niles community, including his service as chairman of the Niles Youth Commission, co-chair of the Niles Diamond Jubilee Committee in 1974 and as a board member and past president of the Chesterfield Garden Estates Homeowners Association.

Selman is survived by his wife of 60 years, Leta; children Bonnie (Marvin) Stamm and Philip (Alaye) Selman; and grandchildren Brian Stamm and Adam, Pamela and Scott Selman.

A funeral service was held Sept. 8 at Shalom Memorial Funeral Home in Arlington Heights. Internment was at Shalom Memorial Park.
Opponents of the recently approved gun shop want to get the Niles Village Board to reverse its decision, and the activists are appealing to local schools for help.

On July 22, the Village Board approved a special use permit for Sportsman’s Club and Training Center, which would have a gun shop and a firing range. The decision has been controversial due to concerns that the shop would be located too close to two Niles Township High School District 219 schools as well as private New Hope Academy.

People for a Safer Society, a Skokie-based organization that formed in the wake of Sandy Hook shooting, has been one of the most vocal opponents of the shop. After the board vote, the society’s members approached the boards of education of the Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 and Maine Township High School District 207, urging them to join districts 219 and 72 in putting pressure on the Village Board. But so far, neither D64 or D207 has shown any inclination to do so.

During the District 64 board’s Aug. 25 meeting, People for a Safer Society member and Niles resident Tisha Ashcroft, told the school board that many Niles residents who see their kids to District 64 schools have concerns about it. “There are many residents in Niles who are fearful about what this type of business will do to their housing values and their taxes, and if businesses are going to decide to move elsewhere because of such volatile type of business,” Ashcroft said.

Ashcroft presented letters written by District 219 Superintendent Dr. Nanciann Gatta and Fairview South School District 72 Superintendent Dr. Cindy Whitten, outlining why the districts opposed the shop. She urged District 64 to follow Gatta’s lead. “Basically, we’re looking for something along the lines of the letters you see here, basically taking a stance on the issue on behalf of Niles residents that do come to your schools,” said Ashcroft. “We are looking for support on this issue.”

But District 64 board member John Heyde said that he wasn’t comfortable with the board speaking out against the Niles Village Board’s decision. “The reason why I’m not inclined to do that is primarily because I don’t want to be in the position to second-guess any other municipal unit of government,” Heyde said. “As I understand it, the Village Board likely has listened to all the [objections] before they made the decision on zoning. I have no idea whether it’s right or not, but I don’t think I should be the person to figure it out if it’s right. A zoning person should be the one to figure it out, just as I wouldn’t want to receive a letter from the village of Niles complaining about our appropriations and Common Core.”

He said that, while he understood why District 219 would be concerned, the shop was nowhere near any District 64 schools. Board President Anthony Borrelli agreed. “You can attack it from moral standpoint, you can attack it from ethical standpoint — there is a difference,” he said. “But from a legal standpoint, I don’t think that we’re in the position to tell the state of Illinois or the city of Niles what they can and can’t do.”

Board member Scott Zimmerman, who put the item on the agenda, said he felt that the situation was more complex than that. “I don’t want to get into anyone else’s jurisdiction, but it is a slightly gray area, because we have constituents in Niles,” he said. “That’s why it’s worth us spending time to discuss it.”

Trustee Bob Johnson said that, while he agreed with Zimmerman’s argument in general, he didn’t feel that this particular situation affected District 64. “I can’t see that anything has been put forward to us that’s a danger to us,” he said. “We need to keep our focus on what our strategic goals are for this district.”

Trustee Dan Collins argued that different board members had different opinions, and it wasn’t something the board could speak on as one. “My concern was, if we were going to entertain this request, someone’s voice will not be heard,” he said. “I don’t feel comfortable speaking as a board about this.”

With no further statements, the District 64 board soon moved on to other matters. None of the trustees responded to her comments, and the issue wasn’t mentioned for the rest of the public portion of the meeting. A week later, People for a Safer Society founder and president Denyse Wang Stoneback made a similar appeal to the District 207 board. She argued that the district’s own experience with having a gun shop in its service area should give it a reason to care about the issue.

At the Niles board meetings I attended, there were assurances given that the facility would be safe,” said Stoneback. “Some of you may have heard similar comments before Maxon Shooters opened its new location in Des Plaines, near Maine West High School. Not long after it opened, in January 2012, a group of teens broke into Maxon and stole about 200 firearms. They fled before police arrived.”

She had the same message for the board as Ashcroft. “I urge you to stand together with [other districts],” said Stoneback. “I ask that the District 207 and the superintendent write a letter to all trustees in Niles, state their opposition and urge [the Village Board] to rescind their vote.”

None of the trustees responded to her comments, and the issue wasn’t mentioned for the rest of the public portion of the meeting.

District 207 spokesman David Beery told Pioneer Press that the board didn’t have any response to Stoneback at this time.

“Because board meetings are essentially business meetings, the board listens to community members during the communication period, but does not discuss further or offer any response until they’ve had a chance to discuss at some later time,” he said.
Niles

Village delaying medical marijuana business applications

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
For Sun-Times Media / @istudenkov

Businesses wanting to sell or grow medical marijuana in Niles will have to wait an extra eight months before the village will accept their application. The Niles Village Board approved an eight-month moratorium on Aug. 26 on marijuana cultivation and dispensaries.

During the moratorium, which will last until April 2015, the village won’t consider any applications for either the medical marijuana dispensing organization or the medical marijuana cultivation centers.

The moratorium was proposed by Charles Ostman, the Niles Director of Community Development, to give the village time to make sure medical marijuana businesses don’t conflict with ongoing efforts to revise the Niles zoning ordinance. During the Aug. 26 meeting, the board approved it unanimously.

For the past two years, the village has been working to update and modernize its zoning code. The village wanted a zoning code that would encourage more contemporary types of development, including transit-oriented development and mixed-used housing. It would also encourage more sustainable, environmentally friendly and pedestrian-friendly developments. The revisions to the zoning code are still ongoing.

In January 2014, state regulations for medical marijuana went into effect. Cannabis can now be grown at cultivation centers and distributed by dispensaries. The law requires both types of businesses to be outside a certain distance from schools, parks and residential areas. Municipalities are allowed to add their own rules, so long as they don’t conflict with state law.

After some discussion, the Niles Board of Trustees decided to restrict both types of businesses to manufacturing districts.

In a letter sent to the board on Aug. 1, Ostman told the mayor and the trustees that the state recently finalized the rules on where dispensaries could be located. Niles Township, which includes the village’s southern manufacturing district, would be one of the potential sites.

Ostman wrote that he wanted to make sure the zoning code was in order before the village starts accepting medical marijuana dispensary applications. “Because this process to rewrite the village’s zoning ordinances is not yet done, I am recommending that the village impose a brief moratorium on any marijuana-related businesses so that we can finish updating our zoning ordinance before considering any such business,” he wrote. “I anticipate that an eight-month moratorium will give the Community Development Department sufficient time to complete our work to rewrite the village’s zoning ordinance, after which time the village would be ready to consider any proposed marijuana-related business application.”

Under the ordinance that went into effect, any applications would be automatically denied. However, applicants have a right to appeal the denial. The Village Board would consider the appeal at the nearest regularly scheduled meeting, and they can approve the application if they so choose. But if the board votes to keep the denial in place, the decision is final. The ordinance also indicates that, if the village adopts the new zoning code at any point before the eight-month limit, the moratorium will expire as soon as the code is passed.

Village Attorney Joe Annunzio told this newspaper that he sees no legal conflict between the state law and the moratorium. The board approved the ordinance unanimously without much discussion.

“I’m comfortable with it the way it reads,” said Trustee George Alpogianis, summing up the feelings of other trustees.

Nor did it inspire much public comment. The only person who spoke was former Trustee Louella Preston, who said she was in favor of it.

“I strongly agree that we should have a moratorium until we can see it in better light,” she said.
POLICE BLOTTER

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

NILES

OBSTRUCTION
Edgar Martinez, 25, of 2148 Ginger Creek Drive, Palatine, was charged with felony obstruction of justice and misdemeanor obstruction of a police officer on Aug. 30. According to police, Martinez had an arrest warrant for a probation violation related to another obstruction charge. He has an Aug. 31 court date.

RETAIL THEFT
Alice Orillo, 34, of 7733 Beckwith Road, Morton Grove, was charged with retail theft and possession of a theft prevention device on Aug. 30. Police said Orillo was accused of stealing $223.50 in merchandise — including whiskey, two cases of water, and a cooler — from a store on the 6000 block of Touhy Avenue. Orillo was allegedly in possession of pocket knives, pliers, magnets and keys which police said were used to remove or damage theft prevention devices placed on merchandise. According to police, Orillo admitted to stealing a camera from a store in Glenview and clothing from another Niles store as well. She has a Sept. 30 court date.

MORTON GROVE

OBSTRUCTION
German Reynoso, 28, of 905 N. 24th Ave., Melrose Park, was charged with obstruction of justice after he was reportedly seen driving erratically on southbound Milwaukee Avenue from Oakton Street at 4:36 a.m., Aug. 30. When an officer asked Reynoso where he was going, he reportedly said he was looking for Melrose Park. He has a Sept. 30 court date.

DRUGS
Shawn D. Christie, 19, of Niles; Shawnice L. Christie, 25, of Niles; and Claudette K. Pascal, 49, also of Niles; were charged with possession of cannabis and drug paraphernalia after they were arrested on the 8800 block of Washington Avenue on Aug. 27. Police said they made the arrests after receiving a search warrant from Cook County. Cannabis and drug paraphernalia were allegedly found in the residence.

DUI
Anthony R. Karcz, 22, of Arlington Heights, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol after he was arrested on the 7900 block of Golf Road on Aug. 31. Police said Houk allegedly failed sobriety tests after he was pulled over. He is scheduled to appear in court on Sept. 23.

THEFT
Errol Nichols, 51, of Chicago, was charged with theft after he was arrested at the Menards store on the 6300 block of Oakton Street on Aug. 28. Police said Nichols allegedly took less than $300 worth of items out of the store without paying for them. He is scheduled to appear in court on Sept. 18.

CRIME BRIEFS

NILES

THEFT
An 87-year-old man told police that between Aug. 29 and Aug. 30, someone stole his steel walker from the backyard of his home on the 7700 block of Nordica Avenue. Police were able to get the man a replacement walker through the Niles Senior Center.

On Aug. 31, a 28-year-old woman reported that $520 in cash was stolen from her purse, which was inside the employee locker room of an assisted living facility on the 6600 block of Milwaukee Avenue.

BURGLARY
A home on the 8500 block of Chestnut Avenue was burglarized Aug. 31 between 5:15 and 9:30 a.m. At the time of the report, it was not known what, if anything, was taken.
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Choice and leadership inspire more to join summer reading program

BY NATALIE HAYES
For Sun-Times Media | @NatHayReporter

Friday began like a typical school day at Niles North High School last week until everything suddenly screeched to a halt for a school-wide book club that had teachers, football coaches, students and administrators engaged in thought-provoking conversations about books all over the school.

Students dropped their homework and teachers stopped their lessons to break out into mini book discussion sessions led by an unconventional mix of school staff, including principal Ryan McTague, Varsity football coach Mark Egofske and assistant superintendent for curriculum Anne Roloff.

The school-wide book club on Sept. 5 commenced the second annual summer reading program at the school, which gave students the choice to read one of 18 different popular titles over the summer and come back to school in the fall ready to discuss the book.

By letting students choose which book to read and offering a list of popular titles spanning different genres from sci-fi to realistic fiction, teachers hoped to foster a more authentic reading experience versus the required reading assignments given in class.

Instead of being tested on the books, students were put on the honor system and were only asked to engage in voluntary, casual discussions about the stories during the brief break-out sessions Friday morning.

“We believe that if kids read in their free time in a low-pressure, non-academic environment, that they’ll do better academically throughout their entire lives,” said Katie Gillies, a reading specialist at Niles North. “They seem more driven to read if they have a choice.”

The summer reading event kicked-off on May 19 with three “Break for Books” days where students gathered in the school library to hear mini-synopsis on each book before having the option to buy the books at a heavy discount.

Most of the books—many of them well-known titles like “The Fault in Our Stars” by John Green and “Unbroken” by Laura Hillenbrand, were sold for $4 or less.

Whether it was the enticing list of 18 popular titles or the cheap book prices, the summer reading program appeared to be a hit.

More than 85 percent of the student body went home with a book when school let out for summer break, Gillies said.

Before the book list was even released, Gillies said there was widespread hype among students about the book list.

All incoming 490 freshmen were required to read “Ashes,” a sci-fi novel by Star Trek writer Ilsa J. Blick.

Blick drove in from her home in Wisconsin to speak to the group of freshman and answer questions about the book on Friday.

In a classroom down the hall, about 15 teenage boys, some of them football players, joined Coach Egofske for a discussion about Walter Payton’s autobiography “Never Die Easy.”

Niles North librarian Beverly Zbinden said seeing the entire school get engrossed in reading was a special moment.

“Lots of kids were talking about which books they read in the halls this morning,” Zbinden said. “The hope is to make them realize there are a lot of people who like reading, and it’s not just a high school class requirement.

The top two most popular books on the list were “The Fault in Our Stars” and “Everyday” by David Levithan, Gillies said.
District 207

School Board passes budget with $1.3 million deficit

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
For Sun-Times Media | @ustudenkov

Maine Township High School District 207's board of education has unanimously approved its budget for the upcoming school year, spending $1.3 million more than it expects to receive.

The final version of the budget is largely identical to earlier versions, with higher book-related expenses, more funding for asbestos abatement for the new administrative building and some teacher-related fund changes.

One major unknown surrounding the budget is how much state funding the district will receive. To ensure the budget was approved before the legal deadline, the district completed the documentation with an assumption that the state funding would be the same as last year. But Mary Kalou, assistant superintendent for business, warned the board that the funding may be wind up lower, which could have a drastic impact on district's finances.

Under the final version of the budget, the district will have a deficit of $1,309,953. This is largely due to spending $6 million on facility improvements which have been approved as part of a 10-year Facility Master Plan. And, as Kalou explained, those expenses are going to be larger than originally thought.

Earlier this year, the district bought back the Tool and Manufacturing Association building to serve the new administrative building and Alternative Resource Center. The building contained asbestos which is being removed during the renovation. But officials discovered the building had more asbestos than they expected.

While the district was originally expected to spend less on textbooks thanks to more students getting Chromebook computers, textbook-related expenses are actually increasing by $400,000. As Kalou explained to the board, this is due to several factors. First, the district used to get some textbooks through the State Textbook Loan Program. Now, it has to buy them out of its own pocket. Second, the district is required to pay for ebook licenses. The licenses will last a few years, and the district should eventually be able to get the money back through fees.

This year, the district is expected to get $1.4 million more in property taxes, which continues to be the district's biggest source of revenue. Federal funding is expected to decrease, though, largely because one of the grants the district previously received has been discontinued.

The situation with state funding is more complex. Because of changes in district programs, some grant funding was expected to go down. But, as Kalou explained, the state usually tells the district how much regular funding it can expect. The district is required by law to have a budget approved by Sept. 30, so it couldn't wait for the figures to come in. Kalou explained that she wound up filling in the state funding portion of the budget based on the assumption that it would be the same as last year.

However, Kalou said she isn't optimistic about state funding levels.

"The state hasn't finalized its funding numbers," she said. "I'm not sure what it means for us - maybe we'll have less revenue." State funding covers a portion of the education fund, helping to cover programs such as drivers' education, bilingual education and special education, as well as providing $3.8 million in general aid. According to the final budget, the district is expected to get $8,081,617 in total state funding.

But Kalou's not optimistic that will be the final number, with the troubled state of finances in Illinois.

"The state continues to run out of money," Kalou said. "I think state revenue will go down. I budgeted for us to be flat. We won't know the level of funding [until they issue pro-rate numbers]."

Proration is a procedure where the state cuts funding with the promise of making up for the shortfall next year. But Illinois has been prorating for a number of years, meaning that the second part of proration keeps getting pushed down the road.

Kalou said that pro-rating undercut whatever savings the district is able to achieve.

"Because they are prorating at greater level, we are losing more than we are gaining," she said.

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By Igor Studenkov
For Sun-Times Media | @istudenkov

For the first time since the beginning of July, a Niles Public Library interim director has lasted longer than a month.

Assistant Director Susan Lempke was originally appointed a co-interim director alongside fellow assistant director Barbara Kruser during the July 15 Library Board meeting. The appointment came because Business Manager Greg Pritz, who was previously appointed interim director, resigned from the position 15 days after the appointment took effect.

Two days after the meeting, Kruser left the Niles Library to become the new director of Lombard's Helen Plum Memorial Library, leaving Lempke as a sole interim director.

During the Aug. 20 meeting, the board approved a stipend for Lempke, while Lempke and Pritz clarified some of the administrative changes that came about as the result of Kruser's departure. At the same time, the board sought to address the discontent from the library staff. During the July meeting, the employees presented a letter signed by a total of 29 staff members. It raised concerns about the way the library handled the search for a new director and administrative structure changes, among other issues.

Board President Morgan Dubiel said the letter caught him off guard.

"My concern was — where is this coming from? How did it happen?" he said.

He and Lempke held a meeting where the staff got a chance to express their grievances. While the meeting was originally supposed to last for an hour, Dubiel said he decided to keep it going for another hour.

At the board meeting, he said that the staff had an "a lot of misunderstanding" and that there has been some miscommunication. Dubiel said that some of the board’s actions over the past few months may have looked good in theory, but failed to take employees' personal feelings into account.

Ultimately, he was pleased with the way the meeting turned out.

The board is expected to pick a consultant who will help with the search for a new library director on Sept. 17.


Susan Lempke has been in charge of the Niles Public Library since August. (CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)
The real reason good sex is important in a relationship

LOVE ESSENTIALLY
BY
JACKIE PILOSSOPH

I bet if someone did a poll asking men and women to rank the importance of good sex in a relationship on a scale of 1 to 10, most people would give it at least an 8.

Remember the movie, "About Last Night..."? There's a scene where Jim Belushi and Rob Lowe are on the El, and Belushi says to Lowe, "So, you're getting serious."

Lowe sort of nods his head yes, as if he's afraid to admit to his buddy that he's falling in love. Belushi then asks, "So, how's the sex?"

Why was that Belushi's first question? Why didn't he ask the real questions, like "Does she make you happy?" "Does she bring out your best qualities?" "Is she kind?" "Is she considerate?" "Does she tell you what she needs?"

Know why? Because aside from the fact that "About Last Night..." is a romantic comedy and not a therapist, most people don't understand that there is a connection between those questions and good sex.

"Good sex is an indication that you and your partner are attuned to each other's needs and that you are willing to fulfill them," said Jessica Waxman, a Northbrook-based licensed marital and family therapist.

"Sex provides a connection that fosters companionship, attachment, commitment and support."

Waxman, who has been in private practice for more than 10 years, told me that 100 percent of the couples who go to see her have issues with sex in their relationship.

"One person doesn't feel like the sex is frequent enough, or they aren't having sex at all. It's not what it used to be, or they feel like their partner thinks it's a chore," she said.

I'm not a therapist, but here's what I can say about good sex in a relationship. It brings couples closer together, it connects two people in a way that not even the best platonic friendships are capable of doing.

Think about it. How amazing does it feel to be out in public with your spouse, look around, and realize that not a soul besides the two of you has any idea of the sparks and electricity that took place in your bedroom last night? I think good sex in a relationship is an added layer that makes you love someone at a more intense level, which strengthens the bond you already have.

So, if you don't have good sex in your relationship, how do you obtain it?

Here are Waxman's tips:

1. Express your needs to your partner. Those conversations generate excitement. You'd be surprised at how receptive your spouse will be.

2. Learn to love your body. How can you be free sexually if you don't have a certain comfort level with your body? That should come both from your own self-confidence and self-love, as well as from your partner, who should compliment you and make you feel beautiful and cherished.

3. Timing is everything. Parents don't always feel sexy and in the mood. Planning is important. Can the kids sleep at their grandparents' house one night? Or, consider planning a romantic dinner date, and make sure the babysitter puts the kids to bed before you get home.

Waxman also said that when sex becomes good, couples want more, and the relationship continues to get better and better, both physically and emotionally.

It's never too late to get good sex in a relationship, but there is work involved: communication, an open mind, the desire by both people to work at it, and patience.

And by the way, if you've never seen "About Last Night..." (filmed in Chicago), I'd highly suggest it!

Something you want to talk about on the subject of dating or relationships? We'd LOVE to hear from you! Email Jackie@loveessentially.com. All e-mails are confidential.

Something you want to talk about on the subject of dating or relationships? We'd LOVE to hear from you! Email Jackie@loveessentially.com. All e-mails are confidential.
Satisfaction guarantee for these companies

HELP SQUAD

BY CATHY CUNNINGHAM

HELP SQUAD

Here at Help Squad, we hear from a LOT of unsatisfied customers. So that got us to thinking. Are there businesses out there that truly value customer satisfaction? The answer is yes, there are. Help Squad contacted six such companies, whose customer satisfaction guarantees are the gold standard. Executives from each explain why they consider it vitally important to stand so solidly behind their companies' products and services.

L.L.Bean's 100% Satisfaction Guarantee — www.llebean.com

Our products are guaranteed to give 100 percent satisfaction in every way. Return anything purchased from us at any time if it proves otherwise. We do not want you to have anything from L.L.Bean that is not completely satisfactory.

Says spokesman Mac McKeever, "Our founder, Leon Leonwood Bean, believed that a sale was not complete until the goods were worn out and the customer was still satisfied. Our guarantee has given us the ability to foster a deep customer loyalty and a level of trust in our brand nearly unheard of in the retail world."

Room & Board's Guarantee — www.roomandboard.com

We stand behind the quality of our products and the prices we charge. If you're not completely satisfied with your purchase or any part of your experience, just let us know. We want you to be completely happy with your new furniture. If there's a problem with an item, or if things just don't look the way you thought they would, we will work with you to find the perfect piece or simply take it back.

Explains Karen Wickett, regional market manager, "We value our relationships with customers and look to provide a positive experience from start to finish. The company guarantee reflects our commitment to bringing the best products and service imaginable to our customers."

Sundance Catalog's Guarantee of Quality — www.sundancecatalog.com

If at any time, for any reason, you feel your purchase has not lived up to your expectation, simply return it for an exchange or a refund.

Matey Erdos, President & CEO, elaborates, "At Sundance, we take great pride in the quality of products curated for our customers. This commitment extends to the exceptional customer service we provide which includes our unconditional return policy. Building strong relationships around customer satisfaction is incredibly important to us."

REI's 100% Satisfaction Guarantee — www.rei.com

We stand behind everything we sell. If you are not satisfied with your REI purchase, you can return it for a replacement or refund within one year of purchase. If your item has a manufacturing defect in its materials or workmanship, you can return it at any time.

Says Megan Behrbaum, public affairs manager, "We want all our members and customers to be able to shop with confidence. Our return policy is an important reason why people shop at our stores or online at REI.com and REI-Outlet.com."


The Lands' End guarantee has always been an unconditional one. It reads: "If you're not satisfied with any item, simply return it to us at any time for an exchange or refund of its purchase price. Everything Is Guaranteed. Period. It's more than a return policy. It's a promise that Lands' End has kept for over 50 years, to stand behind every product the company makes and every service it delivers.

According to Edgar Huber, president and CEO, "Lands' End's dedication and sincere respect of the customer continues to be a strong differentiator for us. One thing, I take tremendous pride in is that we stand behind everything we sell. Customers can return anything at any time for any reason."

Athleta's Give It a Workout Guarantee — athleta.gap.com

Work it out. If it doesn't perform, return it. If it's too big, too bright, or just not you, we're happy to help you return or exchange your purchase.

Adds Sarah Andrus, senior manager, marketing communications, "Offering amazing customer service, including our Give it a Workout Guarantee, is important to our customers and core to our business. We believe in our products and want our customers to love them as much as we do."

Presence Resurrection Medical Center

Presence Resurrection Medical Center is proud to be one of only seven hospitals in Illinois to meet new national benchmarks for readmissions. The Affordable Care Act set these standards to encourage better quality health care by reducing unexpected readmissions after a hospitalization.

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Call 877.737.4636 or visit presencehealth.org/resurrection-stayhome
Ponderings
in the garden
of good and evil

“The world gives us evidence of both. Religious zealots chopping heads is all the evidence one needs for the existence of evil residing in man. What then of Mother Theresa, a living embodiment of good? I believe the stories we tell inform us of deeper, human truths. And what are the stories we tell about good and evil?”

BY RANDY BLASER

I had the good fortune last week to meet an earnest young man from the North Shore who is researching solutions to life’s most universal and enduring problem — the concentration of great wealth in just a few amid abject poverty for the rest despite an abundance of resources.

The initial question is why? Why is there so much poverty on a planet that has an abundance of natural resources, which, if shared equally and fairly, would provide natural abundance for all?

Is this the way of the world instead of how it could be, the way it was meant to be if you believe in the Garden of Eden?

It gets you thinking, and I think it gets back to an ancient question, one I studied in Mr. Mims’ junior English class.

Is man inherently good or inherently evil? Is naturally good man twisted by society, or is evil man harnessed by a society seeking the best for all? Answer those questions, and maybe we can get somewhere on poverty amid plenty.

The world gives us evidence of both. Religious zealots chopping heads is all the evidence one needs for the existence of evil residing in man. What then of Mother Theresa, a living embodiment of good? I believe the stories we tell inform us of deeper, human truths. And what are the stories we tell about good and evil?

Let’s start with the first story in English — “Beowulf” — wherein the hero slays the evil monster Grendel. Fast forward to Shakespeare’s “Macbeth,” the great tragedy of inner struggle with ambition and greed that leads to evil and begets more evil.

Did God create evil? Read William Blake’s short poem “The Tyger,” and try to answer its question: What immortal hand or eye could frame thy fearful symmetry?

Is the battle really an ancient struggle that each of us must wage within ourselves?

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde is a great story of the good doctor who creates a potion that changes him into the evil-doing Mr. Hyde. As Jekyll struggles to control Hyde’s desires, Hyde grows in strength and seeks to do more of the evil he so enjoys. Who will win?

Did our evil nature create the unjust society we have, or did society turn us into mindless automatons who accept the drudgery of existence?

Children survive an airplane crash and find themselves on an abandoned island. Natural innocents, the children quickly devolve into a destructive society of bullying and evil.

What does “Lord of the Flies” tell us? Or is life more like “Brave New World,” where the few rulers of society manipulate the masses and lull them into what might be called the banality of evil, existing only to serve society and the masters above them?

There’s my seminar on good vs. evil. Explore the question, if you will, or not. It really is your choice.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

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

Keep letters to 250 words or fewer. Niles Herald-Spectator reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity and content. All letters must be signed to be published.
I wish I liked Burger King hamburgers.
Because if I liked Burger King hamburgers I could stop eating them.
That would be my small contribution to the urged boycott of Burger King.

You may have read that Burger King is buying Tim Hortons, a Canadian doughnut and coffee chain.

Burger King then would move its headquarters from the United States to Canada and save on taxes.
The corporate tax rate in the U.S. is 35 percent, but only 15 percent in Canada.

Such moves are becoming common these days among American corporations.

There even is a name for it — corporate inversion.

Congress is pretending to be horrified by this latest proposed corporate inversion and is huffing and puffing about closing tax loopholes, etc. Congress, of course, will do no such thing. Congress will not tick off its real constituency.

It would be right and just, though, if these corporate conversions were illegal, particularly in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's 2010 decision in Citizens United versus the Federal Election Commission.

You may remember that the court struck down corporate (and union) limits on campaign spending. Such limits violate the right to free speech guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution, the justices said.

Congress can no more stop corporations from speaking about elections, the court ruled, than it can stop an individual from speaking out on politics and elections.

In short, the court said, as far as the government is concerned, corporations are people.

OK, so if corporations are people, are the same as individual American citizens, they should be required to act like American citizens.

Corporations should pay their taxes where they make their profits — in America. Corporations must learn that citizens of this country have obligations as well as gravy. Paying taxes is one of those obligations. Taxes pay the bills for the benefits that American citizens (corporate and individual) receive.

Good citizens don't avoid their obligations with accounting hocus-pocus even though (at the moment) legal.

And that's why I'm not eating Burger King hamburgers.

Plus, I don't like them.
FEATURED HOME

BY AGGREGO NEWS SERVICE

8028 N. Merrill St., Niles

$399,000

AGENT Donna Mundic, Keller Williams Realty, 847-219-0891

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

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Use the Stage section to learn about local theater productions.

Get up and go

Your guide to the weekend and beyond
Every Thursday
PROPERTY TRANSFERS
BY AGGREGO NEWS SERVICE

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

Niles
9010 Maryland St: Biju Mon Poothurail, Biru Poothurail and Jisha Poothurail to Ismet Ramushi, Merima Ramushi and Hasan Ramushi for $610,000 on July 23

Park Ridge
622 Emore St: Sylvia Delk to Mark Schauerte and Christine Schauerte for $526,000 on July 25
1729 S Washington Ave: William R Wendrick and Deanna C Wendrick to Ihab Abukhalaf for $475,000 on July 21

Morton Grove
7735 Lake St: Sanford M Hanberg Trust, Geraldine P Hanberg Trust and Hanberg Trust to Natalya Yatsenko and Pavlo Kotlyar for $250,000 on July 24
6513 Lyons St: Brian D Parker and Theresa A Parker to John K Cielo and Karen K Cielo for $595,000 on July 23
7817 Lyons St: Nada Yousef to Istvan S Kedei for $272,000 on July 21

Foster Park
4903 Enfield Ave: KhaIid Ali to Ryan V Julio for $171,000 on July 24
9655 Woods Drive: Lozano Jose Dejeus Moreno to Peter Markland and Helen Carroll Bemis for $305,000 on July 21

Skokie
3003 Frontage Road: Syed H Quadri to Mark S Gabriel for $160,500 on July 23
8305 Trumbull Ave: Trumbull-Door LLC to Kathleen Greene for $265,000 on July 24

Lincolnwood
6701 N Minnehaha Ave: Georgia Aountas to Larry Starkman for $530,000 on July 24

Des Plaines
9423 Bay Colony Drive, #326: Cynthia A Armstrong to Demi Med Inc for $75,000 on July 24
846 E Grant Drive: Sally A Tipton to Alexander M Lennon for $443,000 on July 24

Wilmette
B9550 Westminster Lane: Abhijit Barve to Ding Wang and Yanyuan Wu for $1,075,000 on July 22
1154 Seneca Road: Charles A Huston and Caroline A Huston to John B McKnight and Adriane McKnight for $1,315,000 on July 21

Northfield
4030 Arbor Lane, #4030: Chester B Weber to Fazil Bhimani and Cynthia Bhimani for $195,000 on July 24
NILES

THURSDAY, SEPT. 11

Adult Computer Beginner Boot Camp
6:30 p.m.: Learn to use the mouse, keyboard and begin searching the Internet. This four-week training session meets Thursdays through Oct. 2. Registration required. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Homework Help Orientation
5:30 p.m.: Students ages 14-18 can learn about volunteering options available through Homework Help at the library. The Homework Help team helps students in kindergarten through fifth grade with their homework. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 13

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, SEPT. 15

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

Yoga for Kids: Stretch, Bond 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.

Homework Help
6:30 p.m.: Students in kindergarten through fifth grade can receive help with their homework from teen volunteers. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 16

Preschool Story Time
10 a.m.: Stories, songs, and action rhymes for children aged 3-5. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Introduction to Word Web App
1 p.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.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 11

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.

Homework Help Orientation
5:30 p.m.: Students ages 14-18 can learn about volunteering opportunities available through Homework Help at the library. The Homework Help team helps students in kindergarten through fifth grade with their homework. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

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, 6576 W. Howard St., Niles.

Family Story Time
7 p.m.: Stories, songs, and activities for families with children ages 2-6. Attendees are welcome to wear pajamas. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 17

Lyric Opera Lecture: ‘Don Giovanni’
11 a.m.: Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

Book Discussion
1 p.m.: The group discusses "The Secret River" by Kate Grenville. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

BIG KID STORY TIME
1:30 p.m.: The story time includes stories, creative dramatics and other activities for kids ages 4-5. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

‘Wrigley Field: The Long Life and Contentious Times of the Friendly Confines’
7 p.m.: Local baseball writer and statistician Stuart Shea presents an illustrated lecture based on his book about Wrigley Field. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 19

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

Chat and Chomp Book Discussion: ‘Doll Bones’
5 p.m.: Join the group to discuss Holly Black’s Newbery Honor book “Doll Bones.” For students in grades four to six. Pizza is served. Authors Cassandra Clare and Holly Black plan to visit the library on Sept. 26. Registration is required. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 20

Android Tablets for Beginners
10 a.m.: Experts from FireLogic teach Android tablet and e-book reader owners how to use the devices and the best apps for the average user. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

World Language Storytime: Visit Serbia
10:30 a.m.: Preschoolers are invited to share stories and songs in Serbian, followed by a craft and a snack. For ages 3 and older with a caregiver. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

World Language Storytime: Visit Russia
1:30 p.m.: Children ages 4 and older with a caregiver can share stories and songs in Russian followed by a craft and a snack. Niles Public Library District, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles. Call 847-663-1234.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 21

Golf Outing
8 p.m.: Resurrection College High School Men’s Club sponsors this best ball scramble golf outing. Check-in starts at 7 a.m. Stay after golf for a buffet style lunch. Prizes will be awarded for the longest drive, closest to the pin and other contests. Register online, www.rescha.org. Tam O’Shanter Golf Course, 6700 Howard St., Niles. Call 847-967-2344. $95 for 9 holes.

HAPPENING NEARBY

THURSDAY, SEPT. 11

Thrilling Thursdays: Three Pigs
4 p.m.: Students can join this program and prove scientifically whether or not it was possible for the three little pigs to build houses that could protect themselves from the big bad wolf’s blows. For students in kindergarten through third grade. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-9223.

Business After Hours
5 p.m.: Join the Edison Park Chamber members for a networking event that includes tours, wine-tasting, appetizers and a cash bar. Whole Foods Market, 225 W. Touhy Ave., Park Ridge. Call 708-963-1476.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12

Job Seeker Workshop
8:30 a.m.: Volunteers from the Illinois WorkNet Center teach job search techniques, interviewing skills and important points for resumes and cover letters. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-720-3245.

STEAM Starts
10 a.m.: A self-guided exploration of science, technology, engineering, art, math and reading for kids ages 2-6 with a caregiver. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-9223.

Women’s Ministry Kickoff
4 p.m.: Details at 708-867-5044. St. Paul Lutheran Church, 5650 N. Canfield Ave., Chicago.

Sweet Charity
7:30 p.m.: MadKap Productions debuts their first musical at Skokie Theatre, “Sweet Charity.” Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-7761. $38; $33 seniors; $28 students and groups of 10 or more.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 13

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, handmade items, industrial bath and body products, gifts, prepared foods, 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.

Stretch Class
9 a.m.: Ann Stramaglio, an ACE certified personal trainer since 2004, leads the class. She guides participants through a full-body stretch for 60 minutes. The class is designed for all levels, but requires the ability to get up and down from the floor. Gym shoes and comfortable clothes are recommended. All should bring a yoga mat or towel for the floor work. Stretch tubes and complimentary juice are provided. Those who register receive a $5 gift card. Mariano’s Park Ridge, 1900 S. Cumberland Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-696-3646. $5.
Second Saturday Family Story Time
10 a.m.: Stories and crafts for the whole family. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Celebrate Star Wars with Author and Artist Jeffrey Brown
2 p.m.: Jeffrey Brown, author and illustrator of the Star Wars graphic novel, is the special guest at the Skokie Library's Star Wars Extravaganza. Mr. Brown's newest book in the Star Wars series, "Return of the Padawan," has just been released. Books are available for purchase and Mr. Brown will give autographs. This event is recommended for ages 7 and up. Registration is required. Call 847-324-3149 to register. This event is co-sponsored by The Book Stall, an independent bookstore in Winnetka. Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie.

Junior High Open Gym
4 p.m.: An open play time for children in middle school. Call 708-867-5044 for details. St. Paul Lutheran Church, 5950 N. Canfield Ave., Chicago.

Blackout After Dark Zombie Dance Party
8 p.m.: From 8-11 p.m., groups of attendees are given a flashlight to share and explore the set at Fear City Chicago. The set will have a full cast of characters. A cash bar is available. From 8:30-10:30 p.m., electronic rock band V is for Villains performs. Tickets are limited. Recommended for ages 13 and up. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Fear City Chicago, 8240 N. Austin Ave., Morton Grove. Call 224-888-1031. $14.

Second Saturday Coffeehouse; Christine Steyer
8 p.m.: Operatic soprano Christine Steyer performs a recital featuring arias from "The Marriage of Figaro," "Tosca," and "The Gypsy Baron." She also performs other songs. Accompanying her is pianist and narrator Paul Geiger. An open mic precedes the recital, with sign-up at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments are served. Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-3334. Donation.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 14

Skokie Farmers Market
7:30 a.m.: The Skokie Farmers Market brings vendors in from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin that sell fresh produce, cheeses, spices, flowers and other sundry items. Select days offer entertainment such as live music. Dogs and pets are not allowed in the market. The Skokie Farmers Market open since 1975 is sponsored by the Consumer Affairs Commission. Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-673-0500.

“How a Good Methodist Became a Better Atheist”
10:30 a.m.: Anthony Pinn, a professor of humanities at Rice University, discusses how the issues of human suffering and material need prompted his leaving the evangelical ministry. There is a coffee hour after the talk. Child care is available. Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-3334.

How-To Fest at MGPL
1 p.m.: How-To Fest is an interactive event with local experts sharing their skills, knowledge and passions. There are activities, food and games. Some of the featured activities include "How to Take Better Photos of Your Family," "How to Make Homemade Pasta," "How to Do Magic Tricks" and "How to Make Felted Soap." Food vendors include Pequod's Pizza and Culvers. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-865-4220.

Autumn Apple Fest
2 p.m.: Celebrate the beginning of autumn with family, friends and neighbors with a variety of seasonal activities and autumn-themed food. Hodges Park, 101 S. Courtland Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-5127.

MONDAY, SEPT. 15

Discovery Day
11 a.m.: Drop by for a morning of learning with different crafts and activities. For ages 2-6. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prosper Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Story Time for All Ages
1:30 p.m.: Stories, songs and finger plays for the whole family. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Bob Levy's Opera in Pop Culture
2 p.m.: Summit of Uptown, 10 N. Summit Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-1161.

Lego Mania
4 p.m.: Lego building for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. For more information, call 847-825-3123.

MGPL Teens: Robotics Camp
4 p.m.: This three-day workshop shows teens how to construct and program the Library's Lego Mindstorms robot, and use its color, touch and ultrasonic sensors to help control it. Each session ends in a robot challenge, culminating in a full obstacle course on the camp's last day. The class is 4-5:30 p.m., Sept. 15-17. Registration is required. Call 847-929-5101 or visit www.mGPL.org to learn more. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove.
**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Content appears as it is provided in public records. To see all Niles building permits, visit niles.suntimes.com.

**1. Single family - addition**
- **Address:** 7608 N. Neva Ave., Niles
- **Issue date:** May 29
- **Permit cost:** $8,716
- **Construction cost:** $262,135

**2. Fence**
- **Address:** 7748 N. Waukegan Road, Niles
- **Issue date:** May 29
- **Permit cost:** $25
- **Construction cost:** $2,000

**3. Electrical service**
- **Address:** 7945 N. Nora Ave., Niles
- **Issue date:** May 30
- **Permit cost:** $40
- **Construction cost:** $1,200

**4. Service walk**
- **Address:** 7773 N. Nordica Ave., Niles
- **Issue date:** May 30
- **Permit cost:** $30
- **Construction cost:** $1,950

**5. Service walk**
- **Address:** 7775 N. Nordica Ave., Niles
- **Issue date:** May 30
- **Permit cost:** $40
- **Construction cost:** $1,950

**6. Fence**
- **Address:** 7029 W. Seward St., Niles
- **Issue date:** May 30
- **Permit cost:** $25
- **Construction cost:** $1,200

**7. Electrical service**
- **Address:** 7322 W. Oakton St., Niles
- **Issue date:** May 30
- **Permit cost:** $80
- **Construction cost:** $1,600

**8. Roof (commercial and residential)**
- **Address:** 7020 W. Howard St., Niles
- **Issue date:** May 29
- **Permit cost:** $80
- **Construction cost:** $3,200

**9. Electrical service**
- **Address:** 8032 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles
- **Issue date:** May 30
- **Permit cost:** $80
- **Construction cost:** $1,200

**10. Plumbing - misc**
- **Address:** 7048 W. Kedzie St., Niles
- **Issue date:** May 30
- **Permit cost:** $40
- **Construction cost:** $200

**11. Electrical service (commercial and residential structure)**
- **Address:** 8322 N. New England Ave., Niles
- **Issue date:** May 30
- **Permit cost:** $120
- **Construction cost:** $1,500
Special book: Holocaust history, recipes mark author’s personal journey

Hungarian Kosher Foods owner becomes author

BY MIKE ISAACS
misaacs@pioneerlocal.com / @SKReview_Mike

Even before opening the cover of Lynn Kirsche Shapiro’s book, there is something that feels different and special about it. “Food, Family and Tradition: Hungarian Kosher Family Recipes and Remembrances” has an attractive cover graphically cut in half by its title. Black and white photos on top suggest family history, Jewish tradition, generations that carry on; the bottom opens up to colorful, vivid photos capturing delectable foods of all kinds.

Is this a memoir, a book about history, a personal tale of the Holocaust and loss and survival? Or is it a cookbook, a step-by-step guide to creating delicious and inventive food that has stood the test of time?

The answer is yes and yes.

To sum up the book as either a memoir or a cookbook is to miss the point. What the author wanted to complete two unfinished legacies: my mother’s recipes and my father’s autobiography. Shapiro says a shopper before hugging her brother, Irv Kirsche.

The book is a testament to Shapiro’s parents: both Holocaust survivors who found each other in Czechoslovakia. Shapiro’s father was given to me by my parents. They were married less than two hours to survive a death march. Years later, he was asked whether he lost faith during such inhumanity and tragedy.

“In death alone you can lose faith,” he said. “But when you get out of there, you say to yourself, ‘I can’t afford that because whatever I have — whatever my abilities are — was given to me by my parents. And if they taught me the right thing, I cannot allow myself to lose that faith.”

Margit (Weisz) Kirsche was also a survivor of Auschwitz who lost members of her family in the Holocaust. Somehow, she always thought she would survive. Shapiro said. After the war, she met Kirsch in December 1945 and they were married less than two years later.

“They arrived in Chicago in February 1948 with the clothes on their back,” Shapiro says.

Ideal symmetry

This family history may seem an odd first act to special recipes covering appetizers and dips, soups, dairy and egg dishes, fish, poultry and meat, vegetables and salads, potatoes, noodles and grains, desserts and sauces.

But there is an ideal symmetry about the juxtaposition. The recipes are more than just tasty dishes; they are a testament to Holocaust survivors’ perseverance and determination to make meaningful lives for themselves.

“Throughout her life, her home has always been open and inviting to family, friends and anyone needing advice, the comfort of a warm meal and compassion of a warm heart,” Shapiro writes about her mother, now 91.

Stories and even recipes from the families of other Holocaust survivors are also represented in Shapiro’s 279 pages.

What the author wanted to accomplish with her first book was a full plate, indeed, but she soon realized it was even a larger meal than she thought.

“What began as a personal tribute to my parents became a way to pay tribute to all Holocaust survivors,” she says. “The collection of recipes and remembrances that have enriched my family will, hopefully, enrich your family as well.”
Summer storms came earlier than expected on Aug. 23 so the doggie swimsuit contest was canceled, and Pawgust Fest was cut short by three hours. But the dog-friendly fundraiser held at Mitzi Heytow's home in Mettawa was a memory maker for the two hours people and their pups enjoyed free time together.

The event was created to support Labrador Education And Rescue Network, L.E.A.R.N., a lab rescue group in its 10th year. Heytow is one of its most fervent volunteers. "I've been involved with this organization for probably 15 years," she said. "It's brought such joy to my life."

L.E.A.R.N. is an all-volunteer non-profit serving northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin that places abandoned and unwanted Labrador retrievers in new homes. "We get horrible stories," said Heytow, who has five dogs and lost four in the past two months. "People are not terribly nice to dogs. People just seem to invent ways to torture dogs."

Heytow believes in hands-on helping. "I personally take in the unadoptable, older dogs which means they've been battered, bruised, sick and unwanted," she said.

With about 25 acres of land, Heytow's property is a dog paradise. There's a pond for a quick dip and yes, the pool was open for dogs to jump into to retrieve tennis balls. Sectioned off areas of the grounds allowed pups to run off leashes.

The Wauconda Police Dept. demonstrated K-9 dog Maxx, renowned in Lake County for police skills. Maxx will have been on the Wauconda department for 10 years on Sept. 13, and his retirement on its way, said Sgt. John Combs, Maxx's handler.

Pawgust Fest is close to Mitzi Heytow's heart in part because she is a domestic abuse survivor who left her marriage after decades of misery. "I have to tell you that I, too, was unwanted," Heytow said. "For every dog I save, it's a Mitzi save, and that's why I do this."

For more information on L.E.A.R.N. see labadoption.org.
As the summer popcorn season winds down, Hollywood stops chasing teenage boys and starts chasing Oscars.

It's that time of year. The superheroes are hanging up their costumes, the Turtles and Transformers are fading in the rearview mirror, and we start hearing the phrase "Oscar contender" applied to a film or a performance nearly every weekend from now until the holidays.

This fall is no exception. With summer movie previews, it's often a stretch to find 10 contenders with the potential for four-star ratings. In the autumn, the chore is narrowing it to 10.

In chronological order, here's my list of the films I'm most anticipating.

'The Drop' (Sept. 12)

Some 15 months after we lost the great James Gandolfini, his last film performance will be showcased in Michael B. Rosekam's gritty underworld drama. Tom Hardy — who gave what I still consider to be the best performance by an actor this year in "Locke" — stars as a Brooklyn bartender who makes money drops to local gangsters. Based on the clip I've seen of Gandolfini rating Hardy while Hardy quietly defies him, there's much hope for electricity here.

'This Is Where I Leave You' (Sept. 19)

The years have taught me not to get too excited about a film based on its trailer, but I'm excited about this film based on its trailer. The plot hardly sounds fresh — four dysfunctional grown siblings reunited for their father's funeral — but what a cast! Jason Bateman, Tina Fey, Adam Driver, Rose Byrne, Jane Fonda, Timothy Olyphant, Kathryn Hahn ... that's...
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'Gone Girl' (Oct. 3)

Another wildly popular, critically acclaimed novel gets the big-screen treatment. Ben Affleck stars as Nick Dunne, a former journalist who moves with his wife, Amy (Rosamund Pike), from New York City to his Midwestern home town. On their fifth wedding anniversary, Amy goes missing, and Nick becomes the prime suspect. David Fincher ("Fight Club," "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo," "Zodiac") is on my short list of "Event Directors" — master filmmakers (such as Christopher Nolan, Scorsese of course, Spielberg) whose very name instantly makes a project an event. The source material is rich; there's more than one stunning twist in the novel. And the eclectic supporting cast includes Neil Patrick Harris, Tyler Perry and Emily Ratajkowski, she of "Blurred Lines" dancing fame. Wow.

'The Judge' (Oct. 10)

Once again we're talking about a big-city professional returning to his childhood home — but this time it's Robert Downey Jr. as attorney Hank Palmer, returning home when his father (Robert Duvall), a judge, is a murder suspect. The topline cast also includes Billy Bob Thornton, Vera Farmiga and Vinnie D'Onofrio. Have I mentioned how much I love the fall movie season?

'Fury' (Oct. 17)

Brad Pitt headlines this World War II film about a Sherman tank crew embarking on a harrowing mission behind enemy lines in April 1945. The talented David Ayer, a Champaign native who wrote "Training Day" and directed "End of Watch," directs.

'Nightcrawler' (Oct. 31)

As much as any actor of his generation, Jake Gyllenhaal has a keen eye for provocative projects. The already thin Gyllenhaal lost 20 pounds for his role as a underground TV crime reporter in Los Angeles who's often the first on the scene to capture footage of grisly murders and horrific car crashes. "If you want to win the lottery, you have to make the money to buy a ticket" is his motto — a slogan that grows increasingly chilling as the story progresses.

'Before I Go to Sleep' (Oct. 31)

This sounds like a much darker and serious version of "50 First Dates." Nicole Kidman stars as a woman who suffers a traumatic episode that gives her anterograde amnesia, i.e., she wakes up every morning as a blank slate, remembering nothing. Based on her journals, she believes she's a woman named Christine, married with a son. But is she? Kidman's fellow Oscar winner Colin Firth stars as her husband, and the cast also features the brilliant Mark Strong. If director Rowan Joffe finds the right notes to effectively translate Steve Watson's terrific novel, this one could be a stunner.

'Interstellar' (Nov. 7)

Arguably the most anticipated movie of the fall season. Christopher Nolan (the "Dark Knight" trilogy) directs Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway, Jessica Chastain, Michael Caine, John Lithgow, Ellyn Burstyn and William Devane in the story of band of travelers who burst through a wormhole. Their mission? Only to save humanity, that's all.

'Dumb and Dumber To' (Nov. 14)

It's "Dumb and Dumber To." How can it not be on this list!

'Hunger Games: Mockingjay — Part 1' (Nov. 21)

The first two "Hunger Games" films were thrilling adaptations that captured the essence of the Suzanne Collins books, thanks in large part to the stellar cast led by Jennifer Lawrence and featuring great character performances from Stanley Tucci, Woody Harrelson, Donald Sutherland and the late Philip Seymour Hoffman, who appeared in "Catching Fire" and will be seen in both "Mockingjay" movies. As was the case with the "Twilight" films, the decision was made to split the finale into two parts. As was not the case with the "Twilight" films, that should be a bonus.
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'GOLDEN AGE'

Chicago's dance scene evolves into uber-vibrant cultural movement

This might well be the Golden Age of dance in Chicago. The overall quality of the dancers here has never been more impressive. The sheer number of Chicago-based companies with increasingly high profiles beyond the city has been growing immeasurably. The enthusiasm and discernment of audiences for this art has been following suit. And a steady stream of companies from around the country and the world continue to feed both the appetite and the standard of excellence.

Here is just a partial rundown of this fall's many offerings:

Joffrey Ballet at the Auditorium Theatre: The company will begin the season with "Stories in Motion" (Sept. 18-21), featuring three dramatically different works, including Balanchine's 1929 masterwork, "Prodigal Son," set to the music of Prokofiev, with the dancers appearing in this stunning evocation of the Biblical parable coached by Edward Villella, one of the legendary performers of the title role. Also on the bill are Antony Tudor's 1936 "Lilac Garden," to music of Ernest Chausson, which explores the conflicting emotions of a young woman trapped by the strictures of Edwardian culture, and the Chicago premiere of "Raku," choreographed by San Francisco Ballet's Yuri Possokhov and set to music by Shinji Eshima, which spins a story of love, treachery and arson as a Japanese warrior and his beloved princess are pulled apart by a jealous monk.

Then comes a Joffrey premiere, the company's first-ever production of "Swan Lake" (Oct. 15-26), set to the classic Tchaikovsky score and choreographed by contemporary master Christopher Wheeldon, who has reimagined the iconic ballet by setting it in the Degas-inspired studios of the Paris Opera Ballet of the 19th century. Visit auditoriumtheatre.org.

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in collaboration with The Second City (Oct. 16-19 at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance): I'm still laughing at a "preview" sketch for this collaboration that was performed at Hubbard Street's gala this past spring. It took classic Second City material (a guy in search of a date), and watched as he met up with an inflatable beauty who hilariously deflated every time sex became part of the equation. The Harris program will be a full-evening production composed of three distinct, interwoven storylines punctuated by short vignettes. It will be helmed by Jeff Award-winning director Billy Bulgarelli of The Second City, a team of five choreographers, four writers and more than 30 actors and dancers including Carisa Barreca, Alejandro Ferrudo, Lucas Crandall, Jonathan Fredrickson, T. J. Jagodziwska, Kate James, Terence Marling, Tim Mason and Robyn Mineko Williams. Visit hubbardstreetdance.com.


Dance Theater of Harlem (Nov. 21-23 at the Auditorium Theatre): Returning to the Auditorium for the first time in 16 years, this company, which puts an African-American spin on classical ballet, also will perform a mixed repertoire program. It will include: Robert Garland's "Gloria," set to the music of Francis Poulenc and celebrating both the rich cultural legacy of Harlem and its equally vibrant and enduring spiritual legacy; Donald Byrd's "Contested Space," to music by Amon Tobin, which explores contemporary couplings and relationships; and "past-carry-forward," co-choreographed by Tanya Wideman-Davis and Thadeus Davis, and set to the music of Willie "The Lion" Smith and Slippage (a work that considers the legacy of the Great Migration of African-Americans from the agrarian South to the industrial North in the early 20th century), and looks at the Harlem Renaissance, the Pullman railroad porters and more. Visit auditoriumtheatre.org.

ROSAS in "Rosas danst Rosas" (Oct 9-12 at the Museum of Contemporary Art): This groundbreaking 1983 piece by Anne Teresa De Keersmaecker, the influential Belgian choreographer, is set to a pounding percussive score by contemporary composer Thierry De Mey. Driven by repetition and building on an unstoppable rhythm, this work for four dancers mixes everyday and abstract movement and draws on a feminine spirit. (Note: In

SEE DANCE, PAGE 30»
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The inhabitants of that ever-expanding universe widely known as "the Chicago theater community" still like to think of themselves as young pioneers. And to be sure, newbies arrive and set up shop here on a regular basis. But the truth is, this community has amassed a long as well as distinguished history. Just consider a few of the anniversaries this year: The Goodman Theatre turns 90; Court Theatre turns 70; Northlight Theatre turns 40; Seanachai (just renamed as Irish Theatre Chicago), turns 20.

So as the fall 2014 season begins, let's hum that Stephen Sondheim song, "I'm Still Here," and cheer the new arrivals, too. The following is just a hint of what is in store here for ever-adventurous audiences of all ages:

"The World of Extreme Happiness" (Sept. 13-Oct. 12 at the Goodman Theatre): Frances Ya-Chou Cowhig's play, directed by Eric Ting, looks at the phenomenon of modern China by homing in on the story of Sunny, a girl born in rural China, and left to die by her parents, who still hold to the notion that a son is most valuable. Sunny survives, and eventually heads to a city where she works at a low-paying factory job, but her attempts to find success in China's era of radical economic trans-
formation has dire consequences that drive her to question the system she has worked so hard to master. Visit Goodmantheatre.org.

“Native Son” (Sept. 11-Oct. 12 at Court Theatre, in a co-production with American Blues Theater): Nambi E. Kelley, the gifted actress-playwright who has adapted Richard Wright's landmark 1940 novel for the stage, has said the book's central character, Bigger Thomas - a young black man who lived in extreme poverty on Chicago's South Side in the 1930s — has been in her heart "since I met him when I was eight years old... [and] I felt for him, loved him, in spite of the fact he was a murderer." The production of this tale of a man inextricably linked to his environment will be directed by Seret Scott, and is bound to generate a whole new round of discussion. Visit courttheatre.org.

“The Commons of Pensacola” (Sept. 12-Oct. 19 at Northlight Theatre): Amanda Peet is best known as the actress who has appeared in countless movies and television series. But she recently made her playwrighting debut with this play (Blythe Danner and Sarah Jessica Parker starred in the New York production), about a woman who finds herself "in exile" in a Florida condo after the scandal of a Bernie Madoff-like husband has brought an end to her posh life. A Thanksgiving dinner visit by her daughter, Becca, along with Becca's filmmaker boyfriend and rebellious niece, proves to be less than an ideal holiday repast. Robin Witt (who just did such a brilliant job with Griffin Theatre's "Men Should Weep"), will direct. Visit northlight.org.

“The Night Alive” (Sept. 18-Nov. 6 at Steppenwolf Theatre): The widely produced Irish playwright: Conor McPherson has carved a deep place in the hearts of Chicago audiences with such haunted dramas as “The Weir,” “Shining City” and “The Seafarer.” Here he considers how the kindness of strangers comes with complications as Tommy - estranged from his family, crashing at his uncle's ramshackle house in Dublin, and plotting get-rich-quick schemes with his pal - impulsively defends a destitute woman against a violent attack. Henry Winkler (who did such a fine job with McPherson's "Port Authority" at Writers Theatre last season), will direct a cast that includes Francis Guinan and Tim Hopper. Visit steppenwolf.org.

“Death Tax” (Sept. 2-Oct. 12 at Lookingglass Theatre): Playwright Lucas Hnath, 34, will have two of his plays on Chicago stages this fall. This "darkly comic play about death and taxes" is set in December 2010, as the ailing Maxine thinks her daughter is paying her nurse "to gently nudge her into the grave before the new year" in order to avoid hefty estate taxes that take effect on January 1. Maxine offers the nurse a portion of her sizable estate on the condition that she assures her survival until the first. Things do not go according to plan. Heidi Stineman will direct a cast that includes Tony Award-winner Deanna Dunagan ("August: Osage County") and others. Visit lookingglasstheatre.org. (Note: Another Hnath play, "Isaac's Eye," is now in previews at Writers' Theatre, where it runs through Dec. 7 at the Books on Vernon space that will be the company's full-time home this season while its new permanent home is being built nearby. In this hip conjuring of the world of a young Isaac Newton, Hnath imagines his meeting with Robert Hooke, the most famous and powerful scientist in Britain, and the resulting battle of intellects and egos. Visit writerstheatre.org.)

“Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street” (Oct. 3-Nov. 9):

Argue if you must about whether this is Stephen Sondheim's most dazzling score (it's a true beauty, and fiendishly difficult), but you cannot deny this delicious show is the source of "the worst pies in London."

Michael Weber will direct, Doug Peck is the music director, and the cast will be led by David Girolmo as Sweeney Todd and Rebecca Finnegan as Mrs. Lovett. Get a shave in advance. Visit porclightmusictheatre.org.

“At Last: A Tribute to Etta James” (Sept. 27-Dec. 28 at the Black Ensemble Theatre): If you missed this musical created by Jackie Taylor, and first produced at the Black Ensemble in 2005, now is the time to catch it. Or just catch it again. Not only does the show explore the many faces of Etta James (using multiple performers), but it features a slew of her biggest hits. James died in 2012, but she lives on in such songs as "Tell Mama," "Something's Got a Hold on Me" and that title anthem. Visit blackensembletheatre.org.

“Thaïtic” (Oct. 18-Dec. 7 in a Griffin Theatre production at Theater Wit): Rewritten and re-imagined, with all new orchestrations, this Broadway musical by Maury Yeston (whose Chicago staging marks its first major U.S. production in this more intimate form), tells the story of the "unsinkable" ship's maiden voyage, with direction by Scott Weinsnstein and musical direction by Elizabeth Doran. Visit griffintheatre.com.


“Amazing Grace” (Oct. 9-Nov. 2 at the Bank of America Theatre): This pre-Broadway world premiere musical by Christopher Smith and Arthur Giron is based on the true story behind one of the world's most beloved songs. A continent-spanning saga of treachery, rebellion and redemption, it follows the transformation of John Newton, a British slave trader, whose profound moment of self-reckoning inspires a blazing anthem of hope. Visit broadwayinchicago.com.
Fall's freshman class includes not one, not two, but three DC Comics-inspired series with the "Arrow" spinoff "The Flash" (Oct. 7, CW), the Hellblazer adaptation "Constantine" (Oct. 24, NBC) and the best of the bunch, Fox's gritty Batman prequel, "Gotham" (Sept. 22).

A female judge, U.S. secretary of state, big-shot law school professor and top-tier CIA analyst are some of the strong women at the center of rookie TV series, which also feature a fair amount of crime-fighters with a pair of X chromosomes to go along with those handcuffs.

Here are 10 of the most promising new shows debuting this fall:

'Red Band Society' (Sept. 17)
Picture "The Breakfast Club" set in the children's ward of a Los Angeles hospital — and narrated by a young boy in a coma. I know: It sounds like a downer. But this coming-of-age dramedy doesn't wallow in the sick-kid syndrome, focusing instead on this diverse group of patients' interpersonal dynamics. Think "Glee," minus the singing. Oscar winner Octavia Spencer plays a no-nonsense nurse dispensing a daily dose of tough love, while Glencoe native Zoe Levin ("The Way Way Back") shines as a mean-girl cheerleader needing to fix her bad heart, both literally and figuratively. 8 p.m. Wednesdays on WFLD-Channel 32

'Gotham' (Sept. 22)
This atmospheric Batman prequel unfolds in violent Gotham City, where up-and-coming Detective Jim Gordon (Ben McKenzie, "Southland") befriends a very young Bruce Wayne. The series follows Gordon's rise to power —

SEE TELEVISION, PAGE 12 »
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along with some of DC Comics' iconic villains, such as Catwoman (more of a kitten at this point in time), the Riddler and the scene-stealing Penguin (Robin Taylor, "The Walking Dead"). Jada Pinkett Smith is a welcome newcomer to this entertaining band of lawbreakers as nightclub owner Fish Mooney. 7 p.m. Mondays on WFLD-Channel 32

'How to Get Away With Murder' (Sept. 25)
Viola Davis plays a tough-as-nails law school professor whose eager-beaver students get caught up in a murder plot in this fast-paced legal thriller produced by south suburban native Shonda Rhimes ("Grey's Anatomy," "Scandal"). The pilot's rapid-fire speed and plot twists make for a hard-to-follow premiere. If the show can settle down and finds its rhythm, it could be a fun follow-up to "Scandal," airing right before it. If not, this Shondaland ride could fly off the rails. 9 p.m. Thursdays on WFLD-Channel 32

'Transparent' (Sept. 26)
Family secrets start to spill when the adult children of patriarch Mort Pfefferman (Jeffrey Tambor, "Arrested Development") find out Mort is actually Maura, a transgender reveal that sets everyone on a journey of self-discovery. Annoyance Theatre alum Jill Soloway ("Six Feet Under") created, wrote and directed this provocative, dark comedy co-starring Chicago actress Amy Landecker ("Louie"). All 10 episodes available Sept 26 on Amazon Prime Instant Video.

'Gracepoint' (Oct. 2)
Fans of BBC America's engrossing murder mystery/study-in-grief series "Broadchurch" shouldn't feel guilty about taking a pass on the U.S. remake, whose first two episodes read like replicas of the British original — right down to the familiar face of David Tennant ("Doctor Who"), who played one half of the pair of mismatched detectives in the first version, too. Fortunately for Fox, a lot of people missed out on "Broadchurch." That sizeable contingent is in for a compelling, 10-episode-long whodunit set in a small town in California. Chicago native Michael Pena stars, along with Northwestern alum and "Breaking Bad" Emmy winner Anna Gunn. 8 p.m. Thursdays on WFLD-Channel 32

'Survivor's Remorse' (Oct. 4)
Raunchy, LOL funny and occasionally poignant, this comedy produced by Cleveland Cavalier LeBron James centers on basketball phenom Cam Calloway (Jessie T. Usher, "Level Up") who's suddenly rich and famous after inking a multi-million dollar deal that takes him to Atlanta. Plenty of hangers-on want to come along for the ride. Cousin-manager Reggie (Ronreaco Lee, "Glory," "Let's Stay Together") tries to fend off the freeloaders and keep Cam from becoming a cautionary tale on ESPN's "30 for 30." 8 p.m. Saturdays on Starz

The Affair' (Oct. 12)
A seemingly happily married author (Dominic West, "The Wire") takes up with a wedded waitress in the Hamptons (Ruth Wilson, "Luther") in this psychological drama that explores two very different marriages and the effect of infidelity. The most intriguing aspect is the "Rashomon"-style storytelling from both the male and female perspective — an alternating POV that keeps viewers guessing as to what is the truth and where their allegiances should lie. 9 p.m. Sundays on Showtime

'Jane the Virgin' (Oct 13)
Chicago-raised actress Gina Rodriguez — hailed as Hollywood's new It Girl — stars as the titular character in this charming dramedy based on a Venezuelan telenovela. Jane is a hardworking, Latina-American college student who's always trying to do the right thing, even if that means saving herself until marriage, a promise she made to her old-school, Spanish-speaking grandma. Jane's life plans get thrown for a loop when the virgin discovers she's preggers thanks to a medical mixup. 8 p.m. Mondays on WGN-Channel 9

'The Missing' (Nov. 15)
A 5-year-old boy disappears during a family vacation in France, setting his father (James Nesbitt, "The Hobbit") on an obsessive manhunt and driving a painful wedge between his parents. The riveting but relentlessly bleak mystery unfolds over two time-frames: present day and 2006, when the boy vanished. Frances O'Connor ("Mr. Selfridge") plays the long-suffering mother who's trying — and failing — to fully move on. 8 p.m. Saturdays on Starz

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BY MARK GUARINO  
Music Writer

Just because the days are getting shorter and the kids are back in school does not mean the Chicago music scene is on mute. Fall is traditionally the busiest time of the year as artists hit the road with new albums, and the theaters and clubs enjoy a brisker business as outdoor festivals shutter for the season.

Here are highlights for the next few months at a wide range of venues, from stadiums to small music rooms, that will surely prepare you for the looming winter blues:

Garth Brooks with Trisha Yearwood, Shows continue through Sept. 14 at the Allstate Arena, 6920 N.

Mannheim, Rosemont, $65.50; ticketmaster.com: The man who made country music massive in the 1980s is returning to the road after a 17-year absence to play a world tour that kicks off with 11 shows in Chicago.

Ramblin' Jack Elliott, 7 p.m. Sept. 7 at the Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln, $24; oldtownschool.org: There's none like Jack Elliott and there will be none after him. The 83-year-old troubadour of Woody Guthrie songs predates the Greenwich Village folk music scene, became a profound...
influence on an early Bob Dylan, and has since become a touchstone for generations of singer-songwriters.

Funeral Bonsai Wedding with Rock Falls, 9:30 p.m. Sept. 12 at Constellation, 3111 N. Western, $12; constellationchicago.com: Steve Dawson, vocalist and songwriter behind Dolly Varden, premieres a new band that combines his introspective writing with some of the finest jazz players in the city. All year they’ve tested the new material at Simon’s and even a slot at the Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park; this is an official CD release show for their debut album.

Riot Fest, Sept. 12-14 in Humboldt Park. $74.98/$189.98; riotfest.org One of Chicago’s best outdoor festivals is also one of its last. Veteran hip-hop and rock bands, local Chicago artists, and even members of Pussy Riot make up all three days. Topping the bill are the National, the Flaming Lips, the Cure, Weezer, Social Distortion, Patti Smith, Cheap Trick, Wu-Tang Clan, Slayer, Paul Weller, Television and many more.

Zac Brown Band with Cheap Trick, 7 p.m. Sept. 13 at Wrigley Field, Clark and Addison. $99.50/$79.50/$69.50/$59.50; jamusa.com: Fresh from Lollapalooza’s headliner stage, this Austin, Texas, band brandishes big pop hooks while remaining grounded in sonic experiments.

The Englewood Jazz Festival, 11 a.m. Sept. 20 at Hamilton Park Cultural Center, 513 W. 72nd, Free; englewoodjazzfest.org: An all-day jazz festival on the South Side featuring Ernest Dawkins’ We Free Trio, Chico and George Freeman, the Denise Thimes Quintet, and many others.

Sam Smith with Broods, 7:30 p.m. Sept. 22 at the Riviera, 4746 N. Racine, $35; Spoon with EMA, 7:30 p.m. Sept. 16 at The Chicago Theatre, 175 N State, $39.50; Jamusa.com: Fresh from Lollapalooza’s headliner stage, this Austin, Texas, band brandishes big pop hooks while remaining grounded in sonic experiments.

SEE POP MUSIC, PAGE 16 »
**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15**

**POP MUSIC**

Jamusa.com: The latest blue-eyed soul crooner from Britain is Sam Smith whose impressive debut album, "In the Lonely Hour" (Capitol), has earned him accolades on his home turf.

Justin Townes Earle, 8 p.m. Sept. 23 at the Vic, 3145 N. Sheffield, $25; jamusa.com: Although only 32, country songwriter Justin Townes Earle has released six albums in eight years, establishing himself as a rival to his father Steve Earle.

Sebadoh with Wedding Dress, 9 p.m. Sept. 26 at Lincoln Hall, 2424 N Lincoln Ave. $20: The indie-folk band Sebadoh, featuring lead songwriter Lou Barlow, returns from a 14-year retirement with a new album and reunion tour.

The Black Keys, 8 p.m. Sept. 27-28 at the United Center, 1901 W Madison, $75/$55/$35; livenation.com: Dan Auerbach and Patrick Carney, the favorite sons of Akron, Ohio, return to the United Center with "Turn Blue," the band's most musically expansive album, combining power-pop, electronic textures, and dance.

Benjamin Booker with Blank Range, 10 p.m. Sept. 27 at Schubas, 3159 N. Southport; schubas.com: This New Orleans guitarist and his trio made a splash this summer with a national television appearance, festival slots, and an opening gig for Jack White.

Kasabian with Bo Ningen, 8:30 p.m. Oct. 1 at Metro, 3730 N. Clark, $25; metrorhicago.com: This electro-rock band has always kept things tight on the dance floor. Kasabian enjoys a wide following at home in Britain, but American audiences can enjoy them in the clubs.

Fleetwood Mac, 8 p.m. Oct. 2-3 at the United Center, 1901 W. Madison, $189.50/$129.50/$49.50. livenation.com: This classic rock powerhouse returns for another reunion tour. The lineup features Mick Fleetwood, John McVie, Lindsey Buckingham and Stevie Nicks and — after a 16-year absence — Christine McVie.

Robert Plant and the Sensational Space Shifters, 8 p.m. Oct. 2 at the Riviera Theatre, 4746 N. Racine, $75; jamusa.com: The former Led Zeppelin rock god refuses to reunite his former band in favor of quietly releasing albums that focus on American country, blues and folk music. Now a Texas resident, he's releasing a new solo album this month.

Bonnie Koloc with special guest Ed Holstein, 8 p.m. Oct. 3 at the Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln, $28; oldtownschool.org: Here's an opportunity to return to the days of the Lincoln Avenue singer-songwriter scene of the '70s and '80s with one of the premier talents in an intimate setting.

Nas, 8 p.m. Oct. 10 at The Venue at the Horseshoe Casino, $24/$34/$44/$124; horseshoehannamond.com: Nas is on the road to promote the 20-year anniversary reissue of his 1994 debut album "Illmatic." As he showed during a recent Lollapalooza set, those songs remain poignant for their imagery, and woven interplay of jazz, funk and personal confession.

The Jayhawks with Trapper Schoepp & the Shades, 7:30 p.m. Oct. 11 at the House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn, $47.50; hobo.com: This beloved Minneapolis band reissued its earliest albums three years ago and this fall returns with another reissue campaign for their second and most accessible chapter of roots-pop music.

Jackson Browne, 7:30 p.m. Oct. 14 at the Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State, $44.50/$99.50. Jamusa.com: One of rock's most enduring singer-songwriters, Jackson Browne is returns with his 14th album this fall.

Ryan Adams with Butch Walker, 7:30 p.m. Oct. 16 at the Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State, $39.50/$59.50; jamusa.com: This prolific singer-songwriter and rock traditionalist once cranked out an album every year or so, but the
three-year wait for his latest, a self-titled album on the Blue Note label, is worth it.

Sinead O’Connor, 8 p.m. Oct. 19-20 and Oct. 22 at City Winery, 1200 W. Randolph, $75/$95/$115; citywinery.org: She took down Miley Cyrus and Justin Bieber last year and blew the roof off this club last fall. Now the Irish singer-songwriter returns for a second three-night stand featuring songs from a new album, “I’m Not Bossy, I’m the Boss.”

Chuck Prophet and the Mission Express, 9 p.m. Nov. 7 at Fitzgerald’s, 6615 W. Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn, $15/$18; fitzgeraldsnightclub.com: One of the best songwriters of the last 20 years who could wear Tom Petty’s crown, Chuck Prophet is out with a new album, “Night Surfer” (Yep Roc).

The New Pornographers with The Pains of Being Pure at Heart, 8 p.m. Nov. 14 at the Chicago Theatre, 175 N State, $30; jamusa.com: This Canadian indie-pop collective is kind of like a more experimental and quirkier Arcade Fire. A new album, “Brill Bruisers” (Matador), is just released.

Peter Hook & The Light, 9 p.m. Nov. 14 at Metro, 3730 N. Clark, $21/$23; Metrochicago.com: The veteran of Joy Division and New Order has a new band he’s taking on the road to perform New Order’s third and fourth albums, “Low-Life” and “Brotherhood” in their entirety.

Julian Casablancas and The Voidz, 8 p.m. Nov. 18 at the Vic, 3145 N. Sheffield, $30; jamusa.com: This is the inaugural Chicago show from a new project featuring the lead singer of the Strokes with a five-piece punk band from Los Angeles.

Mark Guarino is a local freelance writer.
PICKING UP THE TEMPO

Classical music, opera continue their eclectic journeys

BY ANDREW PATNER
For Sun-Times Media

There are no giant composer centenaries or other season-long events in the classical and opera schedules in Chicago this year. Instead, the story is one of continuing growth and eclecticism, with even the 60th anniversary gala of Lyric Opera of Chicago focusing more on variety than history. Institutional health appears strong across the board with newer venues such as Constellation in North Center and the University of Chicago's Logan Center now established presenters.

Here are highlights of the upcoming classical music/opera scenes in Chicago:

**Riccardo Muti**

Even without music of his most beloved composer, Giuseppe Verdi this season, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra music director is the city's top classical draw and energizer. His fall residency kicks off with already sold-out Sept. 18-23 performances of Beethoven's Ninth "Choral" Symphony; the annual free community concert, this year back outdoors at Millennium Park's Pritzker Pavilion Sept. 19 with an all-Tchaikovsky program, and the gala Symphony Ball (the Ninth again) Sept. 20. Muti's Orchestra...
Tchaikovsky symphonies starts Sept. 25-30 and Oct. 2-4 (a complete Scriabin cycle kicks off in January). The October dates also hold CSO principal trumpeter Christopher Martin in a concerto by Poland's Andrzej Panufnik ahead of a fall two-week, five-city European tour, which starts with the CSO's long-awaited Warsaw debut Oct. 20. Orchestra Hall, 220 S. Michigan. Visit cso.org.

Lyric Opera of Chicago
Lyric will mark its 60th Diamond Jubilee anniversary Nov. 1 with an evening gala concert featuring everyone from emcee Jane Lynch and The Second City to Renee Fleming and Ramsey Lewis, as well as a range of today's younger stars and a return by former company stalwart bass Samuel Ramey. The eight-opera season launches Sept. 27-Oct.29 with a new production of Mozart's "Don Giovanni" staged by longtime Goodman Theatre artistic director Robert Falls, with Polish baritone Mariusz Kwiecien in the title role and Lyric music director Andrew Davis in the pit. Oct. 6-28, Fleming sings opposite Swedish mezzo Anne Sofie von Otter in a revival of the autumnal "Capriccio" of Richard Strauss, Davis again conducting. Returns of "Il trovatore" and "Porgy and Bess" round out the fall half of the season. Opening nights will be broadcast live on WFMT-FM (98.7) and wfmt.com, the gala by tape the following day, Nov. 2. Civic Opera House, 20 N. Wacker Dr. Visit lyricopera.org.

Chicago Opera Theater
COT wraps up its calendar 2014 season with "the other "Macbeth,"" the little-known early-20th century intense take by Swiss (later American) composer Ernest Bloch in only its second U.S. professional production. Artistic director Andreas Mitisek directs with rising COT podium presence Francesco Milioto conducting. Nron Ford and Suzan Hanson reprise their roles as the killer couple from Mitisek's presentation at his other home, Long Beach Opera. Sept. 13-21, Harris Theater, 205 E. Randolph. Visit chicagoperatheatere.org.

Haymarket Opera Company
The marriage of Baroque-centered Haymarket Opera Company and the intimate Mayne Stage in Rogers Park has seen one of the happiest Chicago combinations in many years. Presenting Chicago premieres of 17th and 18th century works, the well-managed group sells out its brief and meticulous prepped runs. Their seventh offering comes a month after their third anniversary: Scarlatti's 1679 comedy "Equivocal Appearances," featuring the company debut of South Side native high tenor Karim Sulayman. Craig Trompeter leads the period instruments. Oct. 24 and 25, Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse. Visit haymarketopera.org.

Boulez commemorations
As he approaches his 90th birthday in March 2015, Pierre Boulez — revo-

SEE CLASSICAL, PAGE 21 »
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BY FRANCES YA-CHU COWHIG
DIRECTED BY ERIC TING

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GOODMAN THEATRE
WHAT GREAT THEATRE SHOULD BE
lutionary French composer and beloved CSO conductor emeritus — has had to suspend his conducting and trans-Atlantic travel. But he has been participating fully in shaping two commemorative CSO programs this fall. The popular “Beyond the Score” series, which Boulez has strongly supported, presents the new multi-media “Provisionally definitive: Boulez at 90” with a stage design by star architect Frank Gehry, Nov. 14 and 16. And young Andalusian conductor Pablo Heras-Casado leads CSO subscription concerts Nov. 12-15 with the Boulez 1960s “Figures-Doubles-Prismes,” as well as works by Stravinsky, Bartok and Debussy. Heras-Casado’s association with the legendary composer-conductor, Orchestra Hall, 220 S. Michigan. Visit cso.org.

Nicholas Kraemer Music of the Baroque and CSO

Nicholas Kraemer is another regular Chicago guest who has endeared himself to local audiences and musicians. He has a particularly interesting back-and-forth with the local Music of the Baroque (MoB), where he serves as principal guest conductor, and with the CSO this fall as he launches the MoB season (in both Evanston at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall Oct. 19 and at the Harris Theater in downtown Chicago Oct. 20) with orchestra, chorus and soloists in Mozart’s Requiem, which Muti and the CSO take up in February. Compare and contrast! Kraemer fills out his MoB concert with Mozart’s “Linz” Symphony and rare brief choral pieces of Beethoven and Haydn. On Nov. 20-25, Kraemer turns back the clock another century at Orchestra Hall where he will lead the CSO from the harpsichord in the popular six Bach Brandenburg Concertos. Visit baroque.org and cso.org.

Nicholas Phan and friends

Although the American tenor does not live here, he bases his Collaborative Arts Institute in Chicago. Founded and run with young pianists Shannon McGinnis and Nicholas Hutchinson, the project encourages and offers training in the presentation of art song and recital. This fall’s Collaborative Works Festival focus is on Robert and Clara Schumann and the young Johannes Brahms, all giants in both song composition and piano collaboration. Sept. 11 brings the annual free performance at the architecturally inviting Poetry Foundation, with Phan, Lyric and Met soprano Susanna Phillips, mezzo Kelley O’Connor and others. On Sept. 12, star mezzo Michelle DeYoung gives the keynote recital at the Harold Washington Library Center with pianist (and Ravinia Steans Institute singers program director) Kevin Murphy. DeYoung gives an afternoon master class Sept. 18 at the PianoForte Foundation in the South Loop. Phan and company close the festival with a Sept. 14 afternoon concert at the Logan Center in Hyde Park—Woodlawn. Visit caicichicago.org.

University of Chicago Presents

With a concentrated exploration of World War I and music coming in the spring, the area’s longtime leader in chamber music presentation has a busy fall at its set of right-sized spaces on the University of Chicago campus. The fast-rising Danish String Quartet makes its Chicago debut Oct. 10 at Mandel Hall with Haydn, Schubert and the U.S. premiere of a new work by Danish composer Thomas Agerfeldt Olesen. Five young ensembles vie in the Early Music America Baroque Competition, a free program Oct. 11 at the Logan Center. Pacifica Quartet launches its Chicago season Oct. 12 with the U.S. premiere of the latest quartet by U of C com-
live lit is thriving in Chicago and has been for some time. On any given night, there's likely to be some sort of page-to-stage event — probably several — going on around town.

Keith Ecker, who helms Guts & Glory and Essay Fiesta, says lately he has noticed "a whole second wave of storytellers, people who view the [live lit] scene as an established entity they want to 'break into.'"

Besides that phenomenon and the ongoing proliferation of live lit groups, proof of its art form's potency in Chicago also is evident by its inclusion in the curriculum of such writing bastions as StoryStudio Chicago and Second City, Ecker says.

More experimentation and branching outside the typical live lit form is happening as well, Ecker says. His "PleasureTown," which began as a limited theatrical run featuring some of the city's top storytellers, has evolved into a podcast.

Elsewhere in town, live lit veteran Ian Belknap is developing the local chapter of an Atlanta-based live lit show called Scene is Missing. His monthly Chicago version, which is set to launch this month, has writers and comedians commenting on movie trailers.

Belknap, also the founder and "overlord" of Write Club — a popular and charitable live lit gathering going strong in Chicago since 2010 and with outposts in L.A., San Francisco, Toronto and Atlanta — is wary of newbies. While Chicago's scene is burgeoning, he cautions that the "intellectual heavy lifting of creating a show is too often ignored."

For new shows to be welcomed into the fold and seen as worthy additions to Chicago's ever-burgeoning scene, he says, they "must have an existential reason for being. Wanting a monthly showcase for your own work is not enough. A new show must represent an addition or expansion of what's currently happening."

Interested in exploring the live lit community, either as a spectator or a performer? Here's a partial rundown of some prominent local groups. Catch a fuller look at entertainment.suntimes.com.

**Story Club Chicago**

What they are: "A nonprofit storytelling show. The goal of Story Club is to mix the spontaneity of an open mic with the experience of live theater. Each show has both open mic and featured performers."

Where they are: Story Club Northside, The Holiday Club, 4000 N. Sheridan; Story Club Southside, Co-Prosperity Sphere, 3219 S. Morgan

When they are: 8 p.m., first Thursday of each month

**That's All She Wrote Chicago**

What they are: "A non-competitive live lit venue for storytellers of all stripes ... who share the mic each month with a new lineup of readers."

Where they are: Great Lakes Tattoo, 1148 W. Grand

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**Essay Fiesta**

What they are: "Essay Fiesta brings together a cross-section of Chicago's art and writing communities for a night of first-person, nonfiction essays to benefit 826CHI."

Where they are: Theater Wit, 1229 W. Belmont

When they are: 8 p.m. (7:30 p.m. potluck dinner), first Sunday of each month

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**The Paper Machete**

What they are: "The Paper Machete is a free, weekly 'live magazine' covering pop culture, current events and American manners. Part spoken-word show, part vaudeville revue, The Paper Machete features comedians, journalists, storytellers and musical guests performing in the back room of North Side bar. It's a salon in a salon."

Where they are: The Green Mill, 4002 N. Broadway

When they are: 7 p.m., every Saturday

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**Story Club South Side**

What they are: "Story Club South Side, The Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia

When they are: Third Monday of each month

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**The Moth**

What they are: "True stories told live."

Where they are: Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln and Haymarket Pub & Brewery, 737 W. Randolph

When they are: Last Tuesday of each month at Martyrs, second Monday of each month at Haymarket

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**UPCOMING LIVE LIT EVENTS IN CHICAGO**

**HERE, CHICAGO**

What: 8 p.m. Sunday (7:30 p.m. potluck dinner)

Where: Stage 773, 1229 W. Belmont

Tickets: $8 or free with dish to share

**ESSE Y F IESTA**

What: 7 p.m. Sept. 15

Where: The Book Cellar, 4736 N. Lincoln

Tickets: Free

**WRITE CLUB**

What: 7 p.m. Sept. 16

Where: The Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia

Tickets: $10, only at the door

**GUTS & GLORY**

What: 7 p.m. Sept. 17

Where: Schubas Tavern, 3159 N. Southport

Tickets: Free

**THE MOTH**

What: 8 p.m. Monday (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Where: Haymarket Pub & Brewery, 737 W. Randolph

Tickets: $8 at the door, $16 presale (limited)

**The Book Cellar**

What: 8 p.m. Monday (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Where: Haymarket Pub & Brewery, 737 W. Randolph

Tickets: $8 at the door, $16 presale (limited)

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Tickets: Free

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Tickets: $10, only at the door

**GUTS & GLORY**

What: 7 p.m. Sept. 17

Where: Schubas Tavern, 3159 N. Southport

Tickets: Free

**THE MOTH**

What: 8 p.m. Monday (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Where: Haymarket Pub & Brewery, 737 W. Randolph

Tickets: $8 at the door, $16 presale (limited)
When they are: 8 p.m., second Sunday of each month

**Stoop-Style Stories Live — Schooled!**

What they are: “Stoop-Style Stories is an off-book (no notes/reading) storytelling show. Featured storytellers are given a theme. They take that theme and then share a 7-10 minute story related to that theme. Every show has a walk-up open mic where storytellers are given 5 minutes to share a story on any topic of their choice.”

Where they are: Rosa’s Lounge, 3420 W. Armitage

When they are: last Thursday of each month

**Story Lab Chicago**

What they are: “[N]ew voices telling new stories in the cozy back room of one of the city’s best pubs. Some of our performers will be telling a story on stage for the first time; others will be taking another step in their development as the seasoned storytellers of tomorrow. Each month features an entirely new lineup coming from a wide variety of backgrounds and disciplines — actors, teachers, poets, lawyers, comedians, novelists, painters, etc.”

Where they are: Black Rock Pub & Kitchen, 3614 N. Damen

When they are: 7:30 p.m., third Wednesday of each month

**Story Sessions**

Who they are: “Story Sessions is a monthly show, based in Chicago, featuring six different storytellers each month. Each performer shares a 10-minute nonfiction story that ties back to the theme for the night. The performers range from professional actors, playwrights and comedians to traditional writers and even first-time tellers.”

Where they are: Venues vary

When they are: monthly; times and dates vary

**Miss Spoken — Live Lady Lit**

What they are: “A live lit series featuring female-identified authors.”

Where they are: Gallery Cabaret, 3020 N. Oakley

When they are: last Wednesday of each month

**OUTspoken LGBTQ Stories**

What they are: “A monthly storytelling event celebrating handcrafted LGBTQ stories.”

Where they are: Sidetrack, 3349 N. Halsted

When they are: monthly

**Scene Missing**

What they are: Writers and comics comment on movie trailers.

Where they are: Schuba’s Tavern, 3159 N. Southport

When they are: last Wednesday of each month

Email: mthomas@suntimes.com

Twitter: @miketscnbe
"Unequivocally cool... how much more powerful and essential the field of ballet becomes when its voices are more diverse and universal."
—The Washington Post

“Fall preview: Food”

September offers one last stand for the epicurean palate

**FALL FOODIE FESTING**

**OTHER FOOD FESTS**

**Festival de la Villita**
Friday, 6-11 p.m.; Saturday, 2-11 p.m.; Sunday, 2-11 p.m., Sept. 12-14, intersection of 26th Street and Kostner Avenue, chicagoevents.com.

**Chicago Ale Fest**
Sept. 19-20, Buckingham Fountain, Grant Park, chicagoleafest.com.

**Sam Adams Lakeview Taco Fest**
Noon to 10 p.m., Sept. 20-21, on Southport between Addison and Roscoe, chicagoevents.com.

**27th Annual Apple Fest**
9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sept. 26, 4700 N. Lincoln, lincoln-square.org.

**Chicago Gourmet**

**The Berghoff Oktoberfest**
11 a.m.-9 p.m., Sept. 10-12, John Kluczynski Federal Building, 230 South Dearborn, theberghoff.com.

Gourmet, which features 150 chefs and includes fun food-offs such as the nearly sold-out Sept. 26 “Hamburger Hop.”

The weekend of events is a bit pricey — $170 per day per person — but the events feature the world's top celebrity chefs and enough food and wine pairings to be worth the ticket cost. Numbers are limited because guests are supposed to be able to wine and dine, but not wait in line.

“...we have an incredible lineup of chefs from around the world and the United States,” says Illinois Restaurant Association President and CEO Sam Toia, who also is excited about the city hosting the James Beard awards in 2015. “In Chicago we have the celebrity chefs, the old standbys like Rosebud, the pizza places, the food trucks. We have everything. It's definitely very, very big times here in Chicago with the culinary scene.”

And for desserts, you can hit up Lincoln Square's 27th annual Apple Fest, where apple pies, hot apple cider and apple pizza thrill taste buds.

“It started off as more of a sidewalk festival back 27 years ago, and it grew to be a full grown closing down the street festival about five years ago,” says Rudy Flores, executive director of the Lincoln Square Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce. “We always try to get our local restaurants to do one apple-inspired dish. It's grown and become a really fun thing in the community.”
As the only U.S. stop for a massive David Bowie exhibition from the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago has generated both local and national buzz. While that show easily will dominate Chicago's fall visual arts scene, it is hardly the only offering this fall. Here are quick looks at the Bowie exhibition and nine other highlights:

“Sabina Ott: Here and There and Pink Melon Joy,” Aug. 30-Jan. 4, Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington: Ott, a professor of art at Chicago's Columbia College, has been featured in more than 100 exhibitions, and her work is included in the collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art and Los Angeles County Museum of Art. This exhibition is billed as a “transformative psychic journey,” in which Ott will turn three windowed spaces in the cultural center into a mysterious environment. (312) 744-6630; chicagoculturalcenter.org.

Richard Koppe, Sept. 6-Jan. 1, 1015, Elmhurst Art Museum, 150 S. Cottage Hill: Chicago-based Richard Koppe was included in such exhibitions as “American Painting Today” in 1950 at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, but he never developed a lasting national profile. A major reappraisal of this under-estimated abstractionist has long been needed, and this large-scale show, with 70 paintings, prints and drawings, attempts to fill that niche. (630) 834-0202; elmhurstartmuseum.org.

“Ink, Paper, Politics: WPA-era Printmaking from the Needles Collection,” Sept. 11-Dec. 21, DePaul Art Museum, 935 W. Fullerton: The Great Depression was a time of enormous financial distress and social transition, and artists offered a range of sometimes politically charged creative responses. This show features original prints created during this time under the Works Progress Administration by such artists as Milton Avery, Stuart Davis and Marguerite Zorach. (773) 325-7506; depaul.edu/museum.

“FLOW/Im Fluss,” Sept. 17-20, Chicago Loop Alliance, Couch Place Alley, State Street between Lake and Randolph: Not so much an exhibition but an immersive environment, this work consists of five 13-by-17-foot “water screens,” to combine sprays of mist and video projections “visualizing” aspects of the Chicago River and River Elbe in Germany. Created by Luftwerk, the installation celebrates the 20th anniversary of the sister-city tie between Chicago and Hamburg and is timed to coincide with Expo Chicago. (312) 782-9160; loopchicago.com.

Byzantine icon of St. Prokopios, 14th century, part of the “Heaven and Earth” exhibit at the Art Institute. | THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

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year, this international art fair has clearly gained traction with both exhibiting art dealers and attendees from Chicago and beyond. This year's edition encompasses 137 galleries from 17 countries, including such newcomers as the Marlborough Gallery, New York; Meessen de Clercq, Brussels, and Josh Lilley, London. (312) 867-9220; expochicago.com.

"Wangechi Mutu: A Fantastic Journey," Sept. 19-Dec. 7, Block Museum of Art, 40 Arts Circle, Evanston: The Block is the final venue for this traveling survey of more than 60 works by Mutu, a Kenyan-born artist who now lives in Brooklyn. She is best known for large-scale collages which offer visual opulence but also deal with a range of socio-political issues, including gender, race, colonialism and war. (847) 491-4000; blockmuseum.northwestern.edu.

"Mickalene Thomas: I was born to do great things," Sept. 19-Nov. 15, Kavi Gupta Gallery, 835 W. Washington: The Brooklyn artist's collage-like paintings, which draw on a range of art-historical as well as pop-cultural sources, recently were featured in a nationally touring show organized by the Santa Monica (Calif.) Museum of Art. "The unabashed visual richness of these works attests to the power of the decorative while extending the tenets of conceptual identity art into an unusually full-bodied form of painting," wrote art critic Roberta Smith in the New York Times. (312) 432-0708; kavigupta.com.

"David Bowie is," Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Sept. 23-Jan. 4, 220 E. Chicago: The MCA is the only American venue for this fall's unquestioned blockbuster, which is likely to break attendance records at the institution. Organized by London's Victoria and Albert Museum, the exhibition examines the musical accomplishments and cultural impact of one of rock's most iconic figures. It encompasses more than 300 objects, including costumes, photographs, music videos, instruments and storyboards. (312) 280-2660; mcachicago.org.

"Heaven and Earth: Art of Byzantium from Greek Collections," Sept. 27-Feb. 15, 2015, Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan: More than 60 major artworks from the early Christian and Byzantine eras — many never shown before in the United States — will be showcased in this abridged version of an earlier traveling exhibition. Among the offerings will be a 14th-century icon of St. Prokopios, as well as mosaics, glass, silver, jewelry, textiles, manuscripts and architectural fragments. (312) 443-3600; artic.edu.

Anne Collier, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, 220 E. Chicago: Often photographing existing images in magazines, books or calendars, Collier explores what the museum describes as the clichés and conventions of commercial photography, especially some of the sexist portrayals of women, and delves into the very act of looking or seeing. This show is billed as the artist's first major exhibition, tracing her career from 2002 to the present. (312) 280-2660; mcachicago.org.
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

**DANCE**

2011, the piece became the focus of a controversy when it seemed Beyoncé created her “Countdown” music video with dance sequences that mirrored sections of the “Rosas” choreography. In response, De Keersmaeker’s company created an open call for others to post their own versions of the dance piece online. Since then, hundreds have participated in the dance remix. Visit mcachicago.org.

Michael Clark Company in “come, been, gone” (Oct. 25-27 at the Museum of Cocontemporary Art): In conjunction with the museum’s David Bowie Is” exhibition, British choreographer Clark will display his blend of ballet and punk, embracing the music of fellow rebel Bowie and collaborating with video artist and dance film pioneer Charles Atlas for this voyage into the 1970s club culture. Visit mcachicago.org.

Visceral Dance Chicago (Nov. 21 and 22 at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance): This new Chicago-based contemporary dance company — which left a searing impression when it debuted at the Harris last season, and confirmed first impressions in its appearance in Dance for Life this summer — features dancers with superb technique and dramatic intensity under the artistic direction of Nick Pupillo. The program will include the company premiere of “Duet Mabul” by Ohad Naharin, the world-renowned Israeli choreographer, new works by Banning Bouldin, Harrison McEldowney and Pupillo, and reprises of “Changes,” by Monica Cervantes and Pupillo’s stunning “Impetere.” Visit harristheaterchicago.org.

Beijing Dance Theater in “Wild Grass” (Oct. 28-29 at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance): In its Chicago debut, this company, presented in association with the Dance Center of Columbia College, will perform the newest work of its artistic director, contemporary choreographer Wang Yuanyuan, who became a household name in China in the dance remix.) Visit harristheaterchicago.org.

BalletX (Sept. 18-20 at the Dance Center of Columbia College): The Chicago debut of this 10-member Philadelphia-based contemporary ballet company will feature two works by Joshua L. Peugh — “Slump,” a wild, aggressive dance about courtship and the instinctual rituals of mating; featuring Korean dance steps and set to Klezmer, jazz and mambo music, and “Valentine’s Day,” a pas de deux that deals with the ideas of giving and receiving, romance and obligation, support and struggle, all inspired by Japanese animation. Also on the bill will be Jodie Gates’ “Delicate Balance,” an athletic dreamscape to music by Arvo Part, Henryk Gorecki, Gavin Bryers, David Lang and Max Richter and Matthew Neeman’s “The Last Glass,” a ballet set to the wild street-parade sound of American indie-rock band Beirut. Visit colum.edu/dance-center.


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Tap Local Talent for Seasonal Hiring

By: Roberta Matuson

Seasonal hiring is moving into full gear, as companies turn their attention to finding employees for the busy holiday season. In the past, you simply hung a “help wanted” sign in the window to find contingent workers.

If you did that today, chances are you’d be overwhelmed with the number of people knocking on your door due to the abundance of available workers. A more focused approach to hiring locally will yield better candidates without overtaxing your business — and ensure that you’re properly staffed and rested before the holiday rush.

The following tips will help to ensure you secure your share of contingent workers this holiday hiring season.

**Local newspapers** -- In spite of what you may have read, local newspapers are still alive and are an excellent source to find local talent. Many job seekers still turn to the newspaper when looking for work.

“Local talent is still picking up the help wanted section and looking through it on weekends,” notes Jeff Graham, marketing director at Monster. “Many papers will offer the full suite of Monster recruitment products to any of their customers. This includes online job postings, resume access, Monster Media Solutions and banner ads.”

This kind of exposure can make a huge difference when you are trying to rapidly pull in the people you need to fill seasonal jobs.

**Neighborhood schools and universities** -- Local schools are a terrific source to hire for holiday jobs, particularly colleges and universities with a large number of commuter students.

These students live close by and are usually eager to earn funds to help defray the costs associated with attending college. Call the placement office and ask how you can notify students that you are hiring.

Keep in mind that if you hire someone in his or her freshman year, you may have a fully trained employee return season after season until graduation.

**Senior Centers** -- They say sixty is the new fifty, so why not dive into the pool of mature workers that would be a great addition to your business this hiring season.

Hiring mature workers has many benefits including a staff that typically needs less direction and has a clear understanding of what it takes to succeed in business. Stop by and post your openings at the local senior center.

Make the application process simple. Leave applications at the center so candidates can apply the old fashioned way — in person, if this approach better fits their style.

**Neighborhood friends** -- If you haven’t done so recently, check out the neighborhood to see who is now of working age and might be looking for a local job.

In case you haven’t noticed, your neighbor’s kids who used to babysit for you or cut your lawn are now old enough to work in a store or in your business. Call your neighbor and ask them to have their son or daughter get in touch with you if they are interested in working this holiday season.

---

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And while you are on the phone, don’t forget to ask them if they know of anyone else who might be seeking a job for the holiday season.

**Religious Institutions** -- Religious institutions help to fortify and sustain communities in a variety of ways. They are also a place where people come to gather and gain support from one another.

Contact your local priest or rabbi and ask if they know of any members in need of extra money this holiday season. Most will gladly pass along news of a job opportunity to members of their communities.

**Look Internally** -- Ask your current part-time workers or floaters if they are interested in picking up additional hours during the holiday rush.

By drawing from a pool of workers who are already familiar with your organization, you will be able to reduce the amount of time needed to fully train people in your operations.

**Employee referrals** -- The best new hires can emerge from employee referrals from current or past workers. Ask your employees who they know that would be a great addition to your business this hiring season.

Sweeten the deal by paying an employee referral bonus to anyone who refers an employee who is hired and stays through the holiday season.

**Contact former contingent workers** -- Search your database or your employee files and put together a list of former seasonal workers who you’d gladly rehire. Call those on the list and ask them if they are interested in working again for you as a contingent employee.

If need be, provide incentives for returning workers. Moving forward, stay in touch and re-recruit throughout the year so you can more easily fill your job openings next year.

Stay top of mind by routinely updating your company’s Facebook page and sending out postcards during the year to remind workers you are thinking of them.

**Pull talent towards you** -- Take a page out of the playbook of larger companies and create an inviting career section on your website that attracts the right candidates to your business.

Don’t know how? Follow the steps outlined in our recent webinar on Four Steps to a Successful Employment Brand and you’ll be well on your way. Be sure to post a note regarding your contingent positions on the front page of your website so that job seekers can quickly see that your business is hiring.
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Amount of Lien: $3782.00
828, 9, 9/11/14 #539331
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All bids to be in writing, to sell the following articles to enforce the State of Illinois against such
articles for labor, services, skills or material expended upon or storage furnished for such
articles at the request of the following designated persons, unless such articles are redeemed within
30 days after it is filed, that a public hearing on

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
In the matter of the estate of
FRANCIS T. MURPHY
Case No. 14-P-2401
PUBLICATION NOTICE
Notice is hereby given of the death of FRANCIS T. MURPHY.
Letters were issued on July 14, 2014, and July 24, 2014, respectively, to the representative,
Joseph A. Murray, 121 S. Wilke Rd., Suite 407, Arlington Heights, IL 60005,
477-0730.
Claims against the estate may be filed with the Clerk or in the Circuit Court Room 101,
Chicago, Illinois 60602, or with the representative, or both, on or before March 9, 2015,
for which time is barred by virtue of this notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred.

Representative
JOE MURPHY
3319 Williams Street
Chicago, IL 60618

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OPTICS

Hernandez

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IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
FANNIE LEE JOHNSON
NOTICE
In the matter of the estate of
FANNIE LEE JOHNSON
CASE NO. 14 P 3458
STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF CHICAGO
On Tuesday, September 19, 2014, at 1:00pm
BEGINS AT: 1:00pm
BEGINS AT: 11:30 AM
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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 integrates all the highlights and live games from HighSchoolCube.com with the comprehensive coverage formerly provided by Season Pass.

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

Go to highschoolcubenews.com or click “SPORTS” on your local newspaper site.
2015 Hyundai Sonata takes a chance on new design, added refinement

BY ANDY MIKONIS
For Sun-Times Media

Hyundai recently treated members of the Midwest Automotive Media Association to an early look at the all-new 2015 Sonata. Having rather liked the daring design of the outgoing Sonata, I was a bit disappointed to see Hyundai go conservative with the next generation. Mid-size sedans are generally not a bastion of adventurous styling, but the last Sonata was one of few breaths of fresh air in the field. That design theme was named Fluidic Sculpture, so Michael O'Brien, vice president of corporate and product planning, calls the new one Fluidic Sculpture 2.0. He said it was a "maturing of Fluidic Sculpture" with the goals of "sophistication, refinement and precision" in mind.

The base 2.4-liter four-cylinder engine returns with a new electronically controlled variable valve timing system. This is said to improve performance over the previous hydraulic unit in cold weather and during warm-ups. They also tuned it for a "low-end performance improvement, which turns into a drivability improvement," said O'Brien. The next choice is a 2.0-liter turbocharged Sonata Sport with 245 horsepower. Another powertrain is on the way in the Sonata Eco, with a new turbocharged 1.6-liter with a new seven-speed dual-clutch transmission for increased fuel economy. A hybrid model will return as well.

While I generally saw the outgoing Sonata in a favorable light, I thought its primary flaw was an unsophisticated suspension. After my test drive of a 2015 Sonata Limited, I'm pleased to report the 2015 Sonata feels more solid, and absorbs bumps a lot better. On-center steering is good, and cornering and quick lane-change maneuvers feel more stable. Brake feel is firm.

Increasing body rigidity gives engineers the opportunity to fine-tune suspensions a lot better; O'Brien said the new Sonata body has a 41 percent increase in torsional rigidity, and 36 percent greater bending strength. Interestingly, he said Hyundai was in a unique position among automakers since they own their own steel plant with some 400 engineers working on high-strength steel alloys, which are stronger and lighter.

Sonata already had an edge in interior volume, and the new Sonata continues that tradition. O'Brien pointed out this was in large part due to the fact that Sonata's all four-cylinder lineup means they didn't have to make room for a six-cylinder engine like the competitors do. Inside, I liked the crisp-looking gauges and center display in the cluster. O'Brien commented the outgoing instrument panel was "flashy" and controls "could be difficult to find." Indeed, the layout is very simplified. The center stack is angled to the driver. The main infotainment screen on the center stack looked very nice.
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Options abound for vacation-home buyers in Chicago, the surrounding suburbs and northwest Indiana, from beachfront homes near Lake Michigan to cabins in the deep woods of Wisconsin.

Recent figures released by the National Association of Realtors show vacation-home sales rose strongly in 2013, while investment purchases fell below the elevated levels seen in the previous two years.

According to the NAR's 2014 Investment and Vacation Home Buyers Survey, which covers existing and new-home transactions in 2013, vacation-home sales jumped 28.7 percent to an estimated 717,000 last year. Investment-home sales, conversely, fell 8.5 percent to an estimated 1.10 million. The sales estimates are based on responses from households and exclude institutional investment activity.

NAR Chief Economist Lawrence Yun expected an improvement in the vacation-home market.

"Growth in the equity markets has greatly benefited high net-worth households, thereby providing the wherewithal and confidence to purchase recreational property," he said. "However, vacation-home sales are still about one-third below the peak activity seen in 2006."

Yun said the pullback in investment activity is understandable.

"In 2011 and 2012, investment property was a no-brainer, because home prices had sharply overcorrected during the downturn in many areas, creating great bargains that could be quickly turned into profitable rentals. With a return to more normal market conditions, investors now have to evaluate their purchases more carefully and do their homework," he said.

The median investment-home price was $130,000 in 2013, up 13.0 percent from $115,000 in 2012, while the median vacation-home price was $168,700, up 12.5 percent from $150,000 in 2012.

The survey revealed that vacation-home buyers were most comfortable purchasing second homes not far from their primary homes. The typical vacation-home buyer was 43 years old, had a median household income of $85,600 and purchased a property that was a median distance of 180 miles from his or her primary residence; 46 percent of vacation homes were within 100 miles.

A majority of vacation-home buyers — 87 percent — want to use the property for vacations or as a family retreat; 31 percent plan to use it as a primary residence in the future. Others saw a vacation home as an investment opportunity or planned to rent a property out or allow friends or relatives to use it.

Both Michigan and Wisconsin, with their lakes, nature preserves and recreational amenities, are popular second-home locations.

"It is no secret that our Illinois neighbors enjoy the natural beauty that the state of Wisconsin offers," said Kirsten Lee Villegas, state executive officer with the Wisconsin Builders Association. "With our pristine inland lakes, miles of bike trails and rolling hills, Wisconsin is an ideal place to build a beautiful vacation home."

The Wisconsin Builders Association, the ninth largest state builders association, can connect buyers with local builders in places like Lake Geneva, Minocqua or Door County, according to Villegas.

"What we do as part of our service is help direct people to the right people," she said.

More information about the Wisconsin Home Builders Association can be found at www.wisbuild.org.

NAR study shows vacation-home sales on the rise

BY REX ROBINSON

For Sun-Times Media
Wilcox aims to meet trending preferences

Wilcox Communities, a developer of amenity-rich lifestyle communities, announced that it will fine-tune its design and construction priorities based on industry data identifying the trends that are most important to home buyers and homeowners.

The data, identified by Consumer Reports, shows that popular trends include:

**Lifestyle amenities**

Neighborhood features like walkable streets, bike trails, walking paths, community centers and access to parks and other open spaces are high on buyers' lists, as they encourage a sense of community. Maintenance features that save homeowners time and effort and locations near cities and recreational areas are also important.

Wilcox Communities' neighborhoods are located near vibrant cities and towns and relaxing recreational spaces. Wilcox's maintenance-free homes enable homeowners to find the time to enjoy these features. An on-site fitness center, clubhouse and outdoor pool are common community amenities. The company says its future communities will offer the usual on-site amenities and be based near locations rich with entertainment and recreational opportunities.

**Energy and water efficiency**

By providing maintenance-free solutions, Wilcox communities help homeowners save money while pooling resources to keep private and community areas beautiful. Wilcox is committed to providing energy-saving solutions, both during construction and as features in its move-in ready homes.

The company says it intends to explore and pursue innovative energy-saving options as they emerge.

**Online presence**

The Internet is shaping the way many people are living today, providing access to a wealth of information, including information about homes and neighborhoods. Most home buyers today seek communities with an active online presence, including social media accounts that encourage community building as well as open discourse with the real estate company itself. Wilcox features Facebook pages for each of its communities and is exploring other social networking options to help residents develop a strong sense of neighborhood and encourage community involvement.

Wilcox has communities in three prime Illinois locations: Woodstock, Champaign and Plainfield. For more information about Wilcox Communities or a particular Illinois location, visit www.wilcoxcommunities.com. The company also maintains a blog (http://www.wilcox-communities.blogspot.com), a Facebook page and Twitter feed.

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Tiffany T collection
There’s no better feeling than opening Tiffany’s robin’s-egg-blue box — especially when what’s inside is a piece from the iconic brand’s new T collection. We adore the T ring, crafted by Design Director Francesca Amfitheatrof and inspired by New York City’s architecture. Starting at $350, 730 N. Michigan; Tiffany.com

Salvatore Ferragamo FIIAMMA bags
The Italian fashion house has fall style in the bag with its new collection of handbags, named after Creative Director Salvatore’s daughter. The chic bags come in exotic materials — think crocodile, stingray and two-toned fox fur stitched onto aged snake skin. Starting at $1,650, 645 N. Michigan; Ferragamo.com

AT THE SHOOT

CREDITS
Photographer: Giuliano Bekor
Stylist: Anita Patrickson / The Wall Group
Hair: Craig Gangi / Exclusive Artists using T3
Makeup: Sergio Lopez Rivera
Shoot Coordinator: Katerina Bizios

ON THE COVER
Vivienne Westwood: gown, price upon request; Viviennewestwood.com
Jean-Michel Cazabat: heels, similar styles available at Neiman Marcus, 737 N. Michigan; Neimanmarcus.com
Sethi Couture: diamond band, $1,500, Sethicouture.com
EFFY Jewelry: rings, similar styles available at Macy’s, 111 N. State; Macys.com

need to know

SPLASH

WHICH FALL TREND ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO?

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Splash is published weekly by Splash Publications LLC, a Wrapports Company, 350 N. Orleans, Chicago, IL 60654

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Splash is distributed weekly inside Sun-Times Media publications.
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this week

September 8-13

- FREE 4 ALL

Whether you're dreaming of being the next Savion Glover or well on your way to a dance career, tap into the dance world at no cost, thanks to the American Rhythm Center, a program of the Chicago Human Rhythm Project. For the third straight year, the ARC teams up with dance organizations such as Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater, Movement Revolution Dance Crew and Muntu Dance Theater to offer six days of complimentary classes in tap, hip-hop, Flamenco, modern, Tai Chi and more, geared toward all ability levels.

Place: Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan
Cost: Free. For a full schedule of classes, visit Arcchicago.org.

September 12

- SNOW CITY ARTS GALLERY NIGHT

Sip cocktails, snack on hors d'oeuvres, bid on silent auction items and take in the wide range of work — including visual art, short films, a conversation wall and a sound room — created by Snow City Arts' young artists, all of whom are receiving treatment at local hospitals.

The Chicago Blackhawks receive the Neisser Award for their support of arts education for children in hospitals, and funds from the evening help Snow City Arts provide one-on-one classes in the visual and performing arts to young patients at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital, Rush Children's Hospital, John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County and the Children's Hospital University of Illinois.

Place: Zhou B Art Center, 1029 W. 35th
Cost: $200 VIP, $100 gallery event only. For tickets, visit Snowcityarts.org.

September 13

- GREEN TIE BALL

Don your best emerald, lime, evergreen or kelly hues for the Great Green Gatsby, Gateway Green's annual event, co-chaired by Lee Golub and Splash's own Susanna Negovan and emceed by "Windy City Live" co-hosts Val Warner and Ryan Cliverini. Savor food and drinks from over 60 top local restaurants — then dance it off to beats from the city's best DJs, including DJ Rock City and DJ Matt Roan, culminating in an appearance by Perry Farrell. Splug on a VIP ticket and score access to a pre-event reception, first dibs on food and drinks, and a casino gaming area, courtesy of Rivers Casino. The event benefits Gateway Green, which works to beautify Chicago expressways, gateways and communities.

Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m. VIP reception, 8:30 p.m.-1 a.m. ball
Place: UIC Parking Lot 6, 1155 S. Union
Cost: $150 in advance, $175 at the door. VIP $250, $275 at the door. For tickets, visit Gatewaygreen.org.

September 13

- CELESTIAL BALL

Join chair Pamela Pohl, co-chairs Lisa Lewis and Meg Sauer and more than 700 of the city's civic, business and philanthropic innovators for the Adler Planetarium's annual black-tie event, hosted by the institution's Women's Board. Themed "Starry Night," the evening features a reception, auction, dinner and dancing, with proceeds helping to fund the Planetarium's science education programs.

Time: 6:30 p.m. reception, 8:30 p.m. dinner
Place: Adler Planetarium, 1300 S. Lake Shore
Cost: $800. For tickets, visit Pchicago.com/event/adler.
September 13

**DOWNERS GROVE OKTOBERFEST**

We may be miles from Munich, but that doesn't mean you can't celebrate Oktoberfest in traditional German style, with brews, brats, wine and other traditional food and drink, accompanied by a kids' zone, face painting, carnival games and live bands — including classic rock cover band *Evolution* — all day long. The event is presented by Education Foundation for District 58 and sponsored by Lemon Tree Grocer.

**Time:** Noon-11 p.m.
**Place:** Burlington between Mohel and Main, Downers Grove
**Cost:** $10 in advance, $15 at the door, children 14 and under free with adult, $100 for four-person family pack. For tickets, visit Lemontreegrocer.com/oktoberfest.

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**next week**

September 14

**● FAB FEST**

Focused on head-to-toe health and wellness, this fifth annual event welcomes both individuals and groups to come out for workouts with some of Chicago's top instructors — including Kara Liotta and April Tornely of Flywheel and Bonnie Michell and Tracy Roemer of Shred415 — plus informational workshops with nutritionists, stylists and beauty and wellness experts; goal-setting sessions; breast and ovarian cancer education, and healthy sustenance. Proceeds help local nonprofit Bright Pink, which offers support and resources for the prevention and early detection of breast and ovarian cancers.

**Time:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
**Place:** Westin River North, 320 N. Dearborn
**Cost:** $500 minimum for individual or team, $5,000 minimum for corporate team of 12. To register, visit 2014fabfest.org.

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September 18

**● CHICAGO FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN ANNUAL LUNCHEON**

Legendary tennis player Billie Jean King delivers the keynote address at this annual event, co-chaired by Anne Pramaggiore, president and CEO of ComEd, and Adela Cepeda, founder and president of A.C. Advisory, Inc. The afternoon also includes a networking reception and lunch, with funds raised helping the CFW in its mission to connect need, money and solutions for women and girls in the Chicagoland area.

**Time:** 11 a.m.
**Place:** Hyatt Regency Chicago, 151 E. Wacker
**Cost:** $150. For tickets, visit Cfw.org/luncheon.

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September 18

**● ROCKIN' ON THE RIVER**

Help the Brain Research Foundation in its mission to aid children, adolescents and adults touched by neurological disorders at this outdoor event, featuring cocktails, hors d'oeuvres from new Tony Mantuano restaurant River Roast and live music from the One Night Band, with the glittering Chicago River providing a scenic backdrop.

**Time:** 6-10 p.m.
**Place:** River Roast, 315 N. LaSalle
**Cost:** $75. For tickets, visit Thebrf.org.

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September 20

**● ARTEDGE 2014: 'DAVID BOWIE IS'**


**Time:** 6:30 p.m.
**Place:** Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago
**Cost:** $3,000. For tickets, call (312) 397-4062 or visit Mcachicago.org/bowiegala.
Folds of Honor Foundation supporters showed their patriotism at the organization's fifth annual dinner and wine auction. Inside Millennium Park (201 E. Randolph), guests enjoyed cocktails, dinner and mingling with the event's co-chairs Steve and Karen Haworth, Gary and Victoria Holdren, Preston and Annie Holdren, Bob and Nina Mariano, Dave and Teryl Schawk and Wayne and Brenda Williams. Later, attendees bid on auction items, including a trip for two to Napa Valley, VIP tickets to Blackhawks and White Sox games and a round-trip flight to Atlanta for the Masters golf tournament. The funds raised will benefit the foundation, which is dedicated to providing educational scholarships for family members of killed or injured service members. —Kristin Callahan

Splash was the media sponsor of this event.
As fall approaches, Chicago’s partygoers are looking fierce in leopard print. No wardrobe is complete without the perennially stylish pattern: From classic yellow to snow white, major retailers like Zara and Topshop are stocking their shelves with leopard dresses and skirts. Not ready to get fully ferocious? Accent your outfit with accessories in exotic fabrics, like pony hair or stamped leather — we like the Jimmy Choo Tokyo calf-hair and mirrored-leather high-top sneaker, and friend-of-Splash Brian Atwood’s Eilat sandal with a leopard-spotted heel. Either way, it’s never too late to take a walk on the wild side.
The Wit Hotel (201 N. State) transformed its rooftop into a fashionable scene for ROOF Runway Aug. 22. The evening's crowd watched a presentation of fall trends from various stores at the 900 North Michigan Shops — including Karen Millen, Cop. Copine (left), DNA2O5O and Azeeza — while taking in the city views from the 27th floor and dancing to beats spun by DJ DOLO. —Kristin Callahan

For 20 stylish girls, the end of summer camp meant showing off their fashion creations to a crowd of 75 supporters at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago's fifth annual fashion show. The youth participants spent nine weeks designing and sewing their garb for the show, judged by local Ford and 10 MGMT agency models. Guests turned out to the BGCC's Pedersen-McCormick Club (4835 N. Sheridan) to cheer on the young ladies, and watched three 9-year-old fashionistas — Bolu Obanla, Bitania Negash and Savannah Kennedy — win the competition. Each girl went home with a prize, thanks to AKIRA owners Jacki Debb and Jon Cotay, who donated purses and jewelry, while 10 MGMT founder David Sanchez and Park Lane Jewellery stocked goodie bags with gifts. —Chiera Milioulis

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When Anna Fong first met Kenneth Coats during a night out in September 2006, she brushed off his advances. On the verge of launching her eponymous clothing line, she wasn't looking to meet anyone. But the duo swapped business cards after discovering they were both entrepreneurs — Coats is the CEO of investigative technology company KENTECH consulting — and went on their first date a few months later. "We had dinner at Carnivale [702 W. Fulton], then went to a jazz club in the Gold Coast — and had our second date the next day," says Fong. "On that second date, he told me he wanted to marry me."

Coats officially proposed to Fong while on a Vegas getaway in 2010 but, because of their budding businesses, they put wedding plans on hold. "Since neither of us have a 9-to-5, our schedules are pretty complex," says Coats. When they finally had a window in their calendars, they decided to go for it, booking Promontory Point (5491 S. Shore) just eight weeks before the wedding day. "It was important to us that the venue was meaningful, and it's where I asked her parents for her hand," he says, noting that he and Fong also loved its location near the lake.

Although it was a tight timeline, knowing what they wanted helped them narrow down the options. "Food, music and flowers were important to us, so it made it easier to make those decisions quickly," says Fong. The bride also faced the challenge of designing her own wedding dresses. After sketching her visions, she made a last-minute trip to New York two weeks before the big day in search of the perfect fabric. "It meant a lot to me to fall in love with a fabric and design gowns that really reflected my personality," says Fong, who created two dresses for herself, as well as one for her sister Jessica (who was the maid of honor), Coats' 13-year-old daughter Kennedi (the flower girl) and both her mother and Coats' mother. "Being a bride and a designer is intense," she laughs.

The end result was a love-filled affair for 105 of their closest friends and family members. "To come to the point of finally setting a date and doing a wedding in two months acknowledges the unity and the determination that we've always had to make our dreams come true," says Fong. Following the wedding, the couple continued their spontaneous streak — they booked a last-minute honeymoon to Cabo San Lucas.

**Photographer:** Allison Williams Photography, (312) 371-9592; allisonwilliamsphoto.com

**Gown:** Anna Fong, 1932 S. Halsted; Anna-fong.com

**Rings:** Tucker Inc., 5 S. Wabash; Tuckerinc.wikispaces.com

**Cake:** Luscious Layers, 2315 N. Damen; Lusciouslayers.com

**Bride's shoes:** Guess, Macy's, 835 N. Michigan; Macys.com

**Bride's jewelry:** Anna Sui, annasui.com

**Bride's hair:** Eli Mancha for Bang! Salon, 1425 N. Ashland; Bangsalonchicago.com

**Makeup:** Andrea Samuels; Andeasamuels.wix.com/bridalmakeup

**Groom's attire:** Tommy Hilfiger, Macy's, 835 N. Michigan; Macys.com

**Florist:** Steve's Flower Market, 1039 W. Grand; stevesflowermarket.com

**Catering:** Premier Catering, 5680 S. Archer; mypremiercaterer.com

**Music/entertainment:** Ceremony: Quartet Urban Music Chamber Lily Chen, (248) 962-5948; Reception: DJ Sean Alvarez, seanalv@gmail.com

**Send Us Your Cheers!**

If you have good news to share — or if you'd like your wedding featured — send a note to Splash@suntimes.com.
IN THE BAG

BY JENNY MCCARTHY

I n my recent book Stirring The Pot, I listed the four essential things that every girl should carry in her purse. Other than the obvious items such as a wallet, keys and lipstick, I added that every girl should carry earbuds, hard candies, chopsticks and emergency feminine products. It was easy to come up with things that I should have on me at all times, but it made me wonder what a man’s essential items would be if men carried purses.

Sure, chopsticks are a little random and may sound weird to some, but imagine what we’d find in a man’s purse — or, as I like to call it, a murse.

I asked a few men what necessities would be in their purses — here are some of the responses I was given:

- Gum. Good thinking. No one likes to talk to — let alone kiss — someone with stank breath.
- Toothpicks. I’m assuming this is to be used in place of dental floss?
- A multi-purpose pocketknife. Obviously, men need to feel like they can fix anything and everything at any given time.
- Minecraft. I think we all know who gave this answer.
- What items do you think the guys left off this list — and what random-but-necessary items do you carry in your own purse?

Prime time

Have your steak and eat it too at RPM Italian spinoff RPM Steak

BY SAMANTHA LANDE

I n a city full of fabulous steakhouses, executive chef Doug Psaltis is convinced that his latest project, RPM Steak — sister restaurant to local hotspot RPM Italian (52 W. Illinois) — will offer a fresh perspective. “Our biggest surprise at RPM Italian was that people really loved the steaks,” he says. “So we started playing around with new steaks, had some fun with it. We thought we’d create a steakhouse like the city hadn’t seen before, with not only a focus on incredible meat, but also on vegetables, mushrooms and fish.”

Along with partners Jerrod, Molly and RJ Melman of Lettuce Entertain You and celeb husband-and-wife duo Bill and Giuliana Rancic, the team designed a space that Psaltis describes as “see-and-be-seen.” The restaurant exudes old-world elegance with a VIP vibe — think deep brown wood paneling, rich leathers and a complete lack of windows. Of the 350 seats, 100 are located on a balcony overlooking the main dining room. The expansive marble-topped main bar provides another perch for people-watching — especially while sipping on one of the 350 wines sourced from around the globe by Richard Hanauer (L20) or a classic cocktail or scotch from Paul McGee (Three Dots and a Dash).

Here’s what else you can expect at the highly anticipated RPM Steak:

Meat cute: While most steakhouses in the city pride themselves on a close relationship with a single butcher, the team here takes a different approach. “[We] sourced the best we could for the particular cut we were looking at, whether that was Wagyu from Japan, dry-aged meats from butchers in New York or lamb from North Dakota,” says Psaltis. The chef prepares his 15 types of steaks in three different ways, using either a charcoal grill from Spain, a wood grill or a high-speed broiler. Price points run the gamut from “kind cuts” like the in-house butchered short rib steak ($33) to the massive 42-ounce Wagyu Tomahawk, culled from Strube Ranch in East Texas ($155).

Must-try dishes: Meats aside, all of RPM Steak’s owners recommend a visit to the raw bar. Psaltis favors the charred otoro tuna, a fatty blue fin tuna belly charred and served with a light mustard dressing ($17). Bill loves the colossal tiger prawns ($15 each), which he claims are “as big as your hand.” And don’t miss unconventional dishes like the whole-grilled dorade from Greece, served with a warm tomato vinaigrette ($52), or the entire menu section focused on mushrooms (options range from Hen of the Woods, $11, to golden chanterelles, $17).

Personal best: The team’s handprints are all over RPM Steak. Giuliana consulted on everything from the server uniforms to leathers to shades of paint, employing her signature sense of style. “And, of course, we had to have purse hooks at the bar — no one should throw their gorgeous purses on the floor,” she says, laughing. Bill made sure the booths were equipped with outlets for diners pulling double-duty — something he does often at local restaurants — and stocked the space with chargers, available upon request.

66 W Kinzie; (312) 284-4990; Rpmsteak.com
Archie Panjabi is a fantastic actress. If you need hard proof, see the Emmy she won in 2010 for her portrayal of Kalinda Sharma, the stone-faced, ruthless investigator on the Chicago-set CBS series "The Good Wife." But for more anecdotal evidence, simply talk to the actress: In real life, Panjabi, 42, is everything her award-winning character isn't — lighthearted, energetic and constantly laughing.

“I always find it very funny that my character so rarely smiles — let alone laughs — on the show, and yet I find it very difficult to keep a straight face,” says the London-born Panjabi in her charming British accent. “I always end up in tears of laughter and my dear, wonderful makeup artist is constantly having to retouch my makeup.”

But when “The Good Wife” sixth season premieres Sept. 21, viewers will only get a glimpse of Panjabi’s serious side. For those unfamiliar with the legal drama’s tumultuous story arc, here’s a quick primer: Last season, the show made headlines when it abruptly killed off main character Will Gardner (Josh Charles), Kalinda’s friend and boss. “People were genuinely shocked by it,” Panjabi remembers. “So many friends — even [those] in the business — called me the night the episode aired and asked if I was OK.”

This season, Kalinda finds her allegiances challenged as her law firm continues to face off against its coin- petitor, run by her friend Alicia (Juliana Margulies) and her on-again/off-again lover Cary (Matt Czuchry). “I think it’s safe to say that there are going to be more surprises and twists [this season],” teases Panjabi. “[There’ll be] interesting developments between Cary and Kalinda. You think they’re never going to be friends again, [then you think] they’re going to be friends or lovers. You’re never quite sure. I think this season you’re going to be equally confused, even though there’s progress.”

Unlike the character she plays, Panjabi’s success can be partly credited to her personable nature. Growing up in London, she knew she wanted to be an actress, but “there weren’t many roles for women with diverse backgrounds like myself,” she says. She went on to pursue a degree in business management instead, but never stopped auditioning for movies. Immediately after graduating in 1999, Panjabi booked a role as a tough-as-nails tomboy in “East is East.” From there, as she puts it, “each film that I did, somebody saw me and gave me a role in their film. They really helped me. In other words, her unique combination of talent and charm created a domino effect: Her breakthrough part as Pinky Bhamra in 2002’s “Bend It Like Beckham” landed her a gig opposite Angelina Jolie in “A Mighty Heart” and a starring role in “Yasamine,” where she caught the eye of Ridley Scott, who eventually cast her in "The Good Wife.”

Clearly, Panjabi makes a lasting impression. But the actress theory on her success is characteristically humble: “I try to do my best,” she says. She also maintains that she hasn’t had an “I’ve made it” moment and doesn’t know if she ever will. “I don’t think anybody really makes it in life,” she says. “People have momentous moments — and I’ve had some very special ones.”

It helps that, for Panjabi, celebrity is secondary to her happy home life: When she’s not filming “The Good Wife” in New York City, she jets home to London to spend time with her family. “I love this business, but I also enjoy escaping from it,” she says. “[For me] it’s just about enjoying life, having good old Indian feasts and going wild.”

PHOTO BY THOMAS RIESE
WHAT WELL-DRESSED WOMEN ALREADY KNOW

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MATERIAL GIRLS

It's time to throw out the rulebook and mix and match your textures — think slick patents with soft tweeds, as seen on Walsh here — to make a statement.

Walsh strikes a pose in the Sofitel's mezzanine.

Monique Lhuillier: trench coat, $4,595; dress, $1,995; belt, $695; MoniqueLhuillier.com

Jimmy Kim: hohe, $348; tm.jimmykimcollection.com

Carla Amorim: ring, $5,280; Carlanmarim.com

Sethi Couture: ring band, $1,500; Sethicouture.com

Our fall fashion cover star Kate Walsh on her unconventional career, bending the rules with her new comedy ‘Bad Judge’ and cutting her teeth in Chicago

BY RACHEL HANDLER • PHOTOS BY GIULIANO BEKOR • STYLING BY ANITA PATRICKSON

There's little that scares Kate Walsh. Her bio reads like a primer on risk-taking: After a childhood spent moving all over the West Coast, she achieved what she calls a “practical degree” to pursue theater, in her 20s, she took off on her own to model in Japan and then to act in Chicago, where she spent years waiting tables and painting houses; she left a solid gig on ABC’s “Grey’s Anatomy” in 2007 to test the waters with her own spinoff, “Private Practice”; last year, she announced plans to depart the hit show at the height of its success to take on more comedic roles, like Gina Hess, the whiskey-downing ex-stripper she played on season one of FX’s Emmy-winning series “Fargo.”

But early in our conversation, Walsh pauses mid-sentence to inform me that she’s slightly alarmed. “Can you hold on? I’m a little bit distracted — I just had to move a lizard out of the house.” She sets the phone down and I hear her laughter echoing through the halls of her Los Angeles home. “My cat’s trying to get it. It’s like Grand Central in here.” She lets out another hearty guffaw. “This is my life. That terrifies me.”

Once she’s seen to the trespassing reptile’s extraction, Walsh reveals her latest act of bravery: On Oct. 2, she’ll debut her new NBC show, “Bad Judge,” which she stars in and co-produces with friends Will Ferrell, Adam McKay and Anne Heche. The series follows Rebecca Wright, an LA criminal court judge who spends her off-hours partying, drinking and enjoying something of a petrified adolescence.
THE WHITE QUEEN

Historically a fashion no-no after Labor Day, fashion houses are welcoming white with open arms this fall, especially when accented with darker colors, leather trim or an avant-garde structure.

Walsh kicks up her feet outside Solfero’s penthouse suite. A-Line jacket and shorts, similar styles available at A-LoveLondon.com

Le Vian: rings, $6,088 each; LeVian.com

Jimmy Choo: heels, $595, Saks Fifth Avenue, 700 N Michigan Ave, Saksfifthavenue.com
For Walsh, playing Rebecca represents much more than just a thrilling career move — the actress sees the character as a much-needed game-changer. "I've never seen anything like [Rebecca] on TV," Walsh says. "The idea of women and how they behave and who gets to be judge whom — I just loved the archetype of a judge who's completely fallible herself, but empowered with the right to decide people's fates for a living. ... [And] she's chosen not to be married and have a family, and to dedicate her life to her work.

It's the sort of rule-breaking role that Walsh, 46, has been waiting her whole career to sink her teeth into. "On TV when I came about in the '90s, there just weren't those roles for women," she says. "I think it started with 'Sex and the City' and 'Desperate Housewives' and Shonda Rhimes, creator of 'Grey's' and 'Private Practice,' writing interesting women who are multifaceted and having adventures. I think women are really craving — I know I am — 'What else can we watch?' 'What else is out there for us to explore?' 'What does it look like to be someone who hasn't taken a traditional path?'

One needs only to look at Walsh herself to see what it looks like — the witty, self-aware actress has spent much of her life purposefully defying that path. Growing up in California and in Arizona in the 70s and 80s, Walsh recalls sitting in her living room with her mother, swooning over the bold women of an earlier generation: Carole Lombard, Bette Davis and Greta Garbo. "These old movies were very female-centric — these fierce women [playing] incredible characters. And it was like, 'Oh, my god, I want to do that!'" she says.

Walsh came into her own as an actress in high school, after doing years of community theater. "I was doing a play and I started getting laughs, and I was like, 'Oh, this is cool, this is interesting and feels good,'" she says. Attending the University of Arizona in the mid '80s, Walsh felt pressured to abandon those acting dreams and take the road more frequently traveled; instead, she followed the lead of her Hollywood idols. "I tried to behave in college because my parents wanted me to, and I just couldn't," she laughs. "I changed my major eight times and [finally] I was like, 'I just want to go back to doing theater.'"

So she did just that, heading to Chicago to sharpen her improv and stage skills at the Chicago Shakespeare Repertory and the Piven Theatre Workshop. "It was a very romantic time for me," she recalls. "There's no theater community like Chicago. It's not about getting anywhere professionally — it's really about telling stories. And I really feel like that informed me always."

Walsh starts to switch topics, then interrupts herself: "I think it's the quintessential American city, and it really typifies what's great about our country," she proclaims, then bursts out laughing. "I sound like a nutbag. I'm running for office also." Off screen, Walsh channels that energy into performing stand-up at "holes in the wall around LA," bonding with her writer/producer boyfriend Chris Case and his teenage boys ("We work hard to make time for each other," she says of their three-year relationship) and, recently, obsessing over fashion. "I got on the worst-dressed list once," she says, laughing. "I think it was before 'Grey's.' I was like, 'OK, time to get a stylist.' And now I'm very into fashion. It's really addictive."

It's also something that helps her get into character — whether she's playing an ambitious doctor, a wild-child lawyer or a drunken Minnesota housewife. "One of the things I did in Chicago was [perform at] New Crime Theater Company, which was Johnny Cusack's theater company, and it was very much about building an image: 'What does this character look like, what are they wearing, what's their archetype?'" Walsh says. "I really responded to that because clothes, a shoe, a certain skirt or the way it's cut makes you walk differently and feel differently. Clothes are very important for a character for me."

With that in mind, we asked the actress to step into several pairs of shoes for our fall fashion issue, inhabiting this season's hottest trends as convincingly as she does every one of her complex characters. And by the way — that lizard? "The cat's sitting there with his face pressed up against the window, looking for it," Walsh says. "Let's end with a cat story. Everybody loves a cat story."
SHEER BLISS

Leave little to the imagination with this season's slew of sexy sheers. For fall 2014, designers from Nina Ricci to Mary Katrantzou showcased airy garb accented with sheer panels for an ethereal yet modern feel.

A vision in teal, Walsh stunned guests on their way to the Sofitel's restaurant, Estérel.

Monique Lhuillier: lace top, $1,095; chiffon top, $1,595; skirt, $1,595; belt, $695; Moniquelhuilier.com

Sethi Couture: diamond band, $1,500; Sethicouture.com

Stylist's own: vintage cocktail ring
FUR REAL

Bundle up for Chiberia 2.0 by embracing your wild style. Real or faux, fur is always hot for winter, but this new generation is a horse of a different color — think deep ruby and emerald hues. And the trend’s not just limited to coats. Designers like Balenciaga and Tom Ford trotted out muffs, cuffs and shearling during fall runway shows.

Walsh takes advantage of the softer shimmering decor, peeling for a photo outside her suite.

Bottega Veneta: top and skirt, similar styles available at 800 N. Michigan.
Bottega Veneta.com

Stylist’s own: vintage fur coat

Jimmy Kimm: shoes, Saks
JKimCollection.com

EFFY Jewelry: cocktail ring, similar styles available at Macy’s, 111 N. State
EFFY.com

MORE ONLINE
For a roundup of Splash’s favorite fall beauty picks, visit Chicago splash.com
The DePaul Art Museum examines art of the WPA era

BY THOMAS CONNORS

The alphabet soup of relief programs the Roosevelt administration developed to tackle the Depression was not universally applauded. While millions were given work, critics derided the government’s efforts as paternalistic, a ploy to woo Democratic supporters, or a breeding ground for leftists. Perhaps no program earned as much ire as the Works Progress Administration—Federal Arts Project (WPA-FAP).

Instituted to support — in some cases, quite literally starving — artists, the WPA-FAP seemed silly when compared to the president’s efforts to put people to work shoring up the nation’s infrastructure. But for the 5,000 artists who benefited from it, this New Deal undertaking provided employment as real as welding or hoisting a shovel.

The DePaul Art Museum’s “Ink, Paper, Politics: WPA-era Printmaking from the Needles Collection” offers an engaging look at some of the work produced in those dark days, when art and art-making seemed far from most folks’ minds.

A gift from the collection of Belveder Needles Jr. and Marian Powers Needles (the former is a distinguished professor of accountancy at DePaul’s Driehaus College of Business), the material on view stands as testament to the aesthetic and social concerns of the era.

Not surprisingly, many of the images echo the hardness of life: Towering smokestacks stain the sky above a row of weather-worn houses in a screenprint by Harry Sternberg; a pair of burly men go toe-to-toe in Fletcher Martin’s lithograph “Trouble in Frisco.”

“Many of the works of the WPA focus on the importance of work to people’s lives, not only providing sustenance but also meaning,” notes Marion Louise Lincoln, DePaul Art Museum director, observes, “I think the WPA encouraged printmakers to glorify the worker at a time when everybody was thinking about what it meant to be employed.”

While the collection includes pieces by such still-familiar names as Stuart Davis and Rockwell Kent, most of the artists who labored under WPA auspices never attained great fame. They were working artists, doing what they did best, and grateful for the chance to do it. But, as writer Archibald MacLeish suggested, by keeping them occupied and sending their work out into the world, this experiment helped their fellow citizens understand that there was more to art than the pricey canvases well-heeled collectors snapped up at auction. “In less than a year from the time the program got underway,” he stated, “...popular interest had crushed the shell which had always isolated painters...from the rest of their countrymen and the artist was brought face to face with the true American audience.”
The past decade has been a whirlwind for Ashley Greene, who, after only a handful of day-player gigs, landed the role of a lifetime playing Alice Cullen in the “Twilight” saga. But with the five-film series wrapped, the 27-year-old actress is still experiencing firsts: This past weekend, she made her debut appearance at the Venice Film Festival, where her latest film, the horror-comedy “Burying the Ex,” premiered. “Now it’s about choosing the right projects,” she says. “You build your resume and there are pros and cons to it, but you don’t want to take anything and everything.” We caught up with Greene on a recent stop in Chicago, where she attended the W Chicago Lakeshore Renovation Reveal Party.

Road to Hollywood
“I wanted to be a lawyer or a psychologist growing up. I’m from Jacksonville, Florida, and where I grew up there’s not as much influence artistically as in some of the bigger cities, so I didn’t really even think acting was an option. Then stuff started happening. My parents said, if you get an agent, find a manager, we’ll let you go out to [LA] for a year. I managed to — every time they were like, ‘Ehh, maybe you should come back and go to college’ — I’d book a day job, or do something to be able to stay out there.”

Role call
“When I moved to LA when I was 17, I didn’t realize how competitive it was ... But that worked in my favor because I wasn’t scared [at auditions], it was just fun. Same thing with ‘Twilight’ — I didn’t realize the weight of what this film was. I auditioned four or five times and it came between me and this other girl who always books the roles that I want, and I ended up booking it, which was awesome. I was like, ‘Finally! It was worth the wait.’

Star-struck
“Cate Blanchett would definitely make me star-struck, and Meryl Streep of course. She just seems like a powerhouse. I worked with Alan Rickman — he was a little intimidating at first because he has that kind of dry, English sense of humor and sarcasm. I played his daughter, so I think he was a little nicer to me.”

In my free time ...
“Recently, I’ve been making jewelry. My friends and I will go downtown and get pieces — we’re doing a lot of beads and some metals and learning how to do clasps and trying everything. I really want to get [the tools] to engrave stuff. It’s fun to play around without any kind of pressure surrounding it.”

Perfect pair
Neiman Marcus Michigan Avenue is giving us serious shoe envy. The luxury retailer hosts its Shoe Bash Sept. 11, where guests can view trunk show collections from Christian Louboutin, Laurence Dacade, Monolo Blahnik, René Caovilla and Tom Ford while sipping cocktails and snacking on hors d’oeuvres. Plus, designer Angela Scott will be in-store to unveil her latest collection, dubbed The Office. Top off the evening by trying your luck at an arcade-style crane machine that may pull out a pair of luxury shoes, indulge in a mini manicure featuring Louboutin Beauté’s polish and score giveaways every half hour. 5-7 p.m., 737 N. Michigan; Neimanmarcus.com

Street style
Macy’s State Street will open its iconic corner window starting Sept. 12 for a live, two-day fashion show featuring the fall 2014 collections of six Chicago Fashion Incubator designers, including Agnes Hamerlik, Olivia Hwang and Alyssa Kahle. Friday 10 a.m., noon and 4 p.m. and Saturday noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., 111 N. State; Macy's.com

Sweet farewell
Gold Coast shop Sofia Boutique is closing its doors and holding a final “Goodbye Sale” now through Sept. 15. All merchandise in store and online — including sweaters, dresses, denim and accessories — will be marked down 40-90 percent. 100 E. Walton, Suite 106; Sofialovelycom

Sporty styles
Sportswear apparel brand Eddie Bauer recently expanded its Chicago presence with the addition of a new Lincoln Park storefront. Shoppers can explore the new location for the best in outerwear, including parkas, jackets, fleeces, vests and more. 755 W. North; Eddiebauer.com

Micro therm vests, $129 each at Eddie Bauer

Angela Scott
Oxford, $495

CHICAGOSPLASH.COM | SEPTEMBER 7-13, 2014 21
**Balenciaga:** wedge-heel Glove slingback sandal, $735, Barneys New York, 15 E. Oak; Barneys.com
"The perfect shoe for now and into the fall season. The comfort of the wedge is unbeatable if you're on-the-go from day to night."

**Fashionary:** sketchbook, $23.90, Genesis Art Supply, 2417 N. Western; Artsupply.com
"While spending my early design years at the Fashion Institute of Technology, I would stock up on items that supported my creativity, like the Fashionary International books for sketching."

**Karolina Zmarlak:** pony, leather and canvas dress, $1,995, Saks Fifth Avenue, 700 N. Michigan; Saksfifthavenue.com
"This dress fuses textures, combining lightweight leathers and fabric. The shift is perfect for the fall months, layered with a black second-skin top [also available at Saks] and a high boot."

**Second City:** tickets start at $10, 1616 N. Wells; Secondcity.com
"Chicago was my first city in the States after moving from Poland. I relate my humor and fun with the flippant, creative attitudes of the Chicago spirit, seen every night in a performance full of laughs at Second City."

**Nars:** Larger Than Life long-wear eyeliner, $24, Nordstrom, 55 E. Grand; Shop.nordstrom.com
"While everyone is lip-crazed, I have always been a strong-eye, no-lip type. This Nars eyeliner stays put and can look extra dramatic or sleekly clean. I don't leave home without it on."

**Super by Retrosuperfuture:** América in crystal blue sunglasses, $199; Store.retrosuperfuture.com
"These sunglasses can be part of my look — or help me hide. The navy, logo-less frames are sold in a very limited way. They feel individual, but don't scream."

**Malin+Goetz:** vitamin E face moisturizer, $45, Bloomingdales, 900 N. Michigan; Bloomingdales.com
"I have sensitive skin that is prone to breakouts, and this moisturizer is a clean way to give my skin life in the morning and at night."

**Calvin Klein:** signature demi bra, $38, Macy's, 111 N. State; Macys.com
"This is the perfect undergarment because it shapes and smoothes. I tell women all the time to wear these for easy shaping under all my tailored fitted dresses or draped blouses."

**Moroccanoil:** smoothing shampoo, $28; conditioner, $29, East Bank Club, 500 N. Kingsbury; Moroccanoil.com
"I take extremely long showers, which leaves me little time for my hair-styling. [Moroccanoil's] smoothing shampoo and conditioner allow me to wash and go — my hair dries frizz-free."

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Skokie couple adored Drake Hotel

Angelica Marconi and Jacob Zweig

By Caitlin Mullen
Contributing writer

Angelica Marconi is one of few brides who can say an item she once shoved up her nose played a part in her wedding day.

After the blue button she stuck up her nose at age 4 was removed at the hospital, Angelica's mom, Randi Spiegel, kept it.

And once Angelica decided on her lace and organza dress from Vwidon in Chicago, her mother asked the dressmaker to have the button sewn into the dress for the day she married Jacob Zweig.

The story illustrates their wedding's unique blend of quirk and classic elegance at The Drake Hotel in Chicago.

Angelica and Jacob, who now live in Skokie, are both from Highland Park; Angelica attends Chicago Medical School, and Jacob is working on his doctorate in cognitive neuroscience at Northwestern University.

Angelica moved to Highland Park in third grade, and she and Jacob grew up together. They became friends during their junior year of high school, and began dating the following year, in 2004.

Both attended McGill University in Montreal, Canada, and returned to Chicago for jobs afterward. In October 2013, Jacob made one of Angelica's favorite dinners and proposed.

The two celebrated by dancing around the house, and when The Beach Boys' "God Only Knows" played, they shared a slow dance. Later, that song was the natural choice for their first dance as husband and wife.

"It was a very nice, very personal way to ask. I was very happy," Angelica said.

Because the couple wanted their May 31 wedding to feel timeless and elegant, The Drake Hotel in Chicago — with its location, large windows and delicious food — provided the perfect backdrop for their ceremony and reception.

But the couple made sure to incorporate aspects of their quirky personalities, too. Angelica said they kind of shocked themselves by wanting a more traditional wedding.

Jacob made a unique wedding website with details for their guests, and a slow-motion video booth with props at the reception allowed family and friends to get silly.

They showed a video at their rehearsal dinner called "Get Them to The Drake," which depicted them waking late on what they thought was their wedding day, running into problems as they rushed to the hotel, and eventually skydiving to get there, only to be told the wedding was the following day.

"I was actually more nervous to show the video than I was for the wedding," Angelica said.

Facebook.com/BouquetCatcher Twitter @BouquetCatcher Pinterest.com/BouquetCatcher

Photographer: Steve Koo Photography, Chicago
Videographer: Imagination Designers, Plainfield
Venue: The Drake Hotel, Chicago
Officiant: Cantor Michael Davis
Dress: Vwidon, Chicago
Shoes: Benjamin Adams
Floral arrangements: Art Quest, Highwood
Band: TVK Orchestra, Chicago
Hair: Reva Gorbaty, Salon Buzz, Chicago
Makeup: Cynde Hoffman, Cynde Cosmetics
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Adriana Salamanca & John David Ziza II

Adriana Salamanca and John David Ziza II were married May 7 at ARTango Bistro in Chicago. Adriana, originally from Chicago, and John, from Cincinnati, Ohio, live in the Lincoln Square area of Chicago. Adriana's advice for others planning a wedding is to keep it simple. She described her and John's day as small and low key. They honeymooned to Couples Tower Isle, an all inclusive resort in Jamaica.
A little hope goes a long way in ‘Sweet Charity’

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
For Sun-Times Media

Her middle name says it all for Charity Hope Valentine. The young lady is always hoping—to find the man of her dreams, to leave her job as a dance hall girl, to fulfill her belief that “There’s Got to be Something Better Than This.”

Sarah Hoch plays “Sweet Charity” in MadKap Productions’ staging of the enchanting musical by Neil Simon (book), Cy Coleman (music) and Dorothy Fields (lyrics).

“She is the most optimistic person you will ever meet despite some really, really bad times that she goes through,” Hoch said of Charity. “She keeps smiling through it all.”

Hoch has a theory as to why Charity has so much trouble with men. “I think that she’s looking for men to kind of save her as opposed to finding her way out,” the actor said. She noted that the other dance hall girls “are talking about the careers that they’re going to have. She really hasn’t done that.”

Charity’s goal is “to be married and to have kids and be stable and not be working at the Fandango Ballroom anymore,” Hoch said. Throughout Charity’s trials and tribulations, she sings such memorable songs as “Big Spender,” “If My Friends Could See Me Now,” and “I’m a Brass Band.”

Hoch loves playing Charity because, “She just has so much fun with life all the time.”

The Massachusetts native has been performing in musical theater since middle school and earned a bachelor of fine arts degree in musical theater from Drake University in Des Moines. Since moving to Chicago two years ago, Hoch has performed with Underscore Theatre Company and Fox Valley Repertory.

Charity is a demanding role because the title character is onstage all the time and must be able to dance as well as she sings and acts. That’s why director Andrew Park was delighted when Hoch auditioned.

Despite the impressive array of talent Park saw, “It was pretty clear who our Charity should be,” he said. “She had a charm about her that I think is going to read really well with the audience. She’s got a great voice and she’s a really, really strong dancer.”

Park noted that many people who know the songs from the show aren’t as familiar with the storyline. “It’s a very important story and one that is fun to tell,” he said. “Some may argue that ‘Sweet Charity’ is a dated piece,” Park asserted, “but its message is living. I think about myself living in a big city, trying to desperately live a dream. I think that’s something that most people experience. Oftentimes, we work jobs that we hate to pay our rent and suffer through relationships that don’t work. It’s easy to sort of lose yourself in the fray. You wake up one day and you realize you’re behind on your dreams — and on your bills.”

Charity Hope Valentine deals with all of that but, “She keeps believing in herself and the possibility for something better,” Park said. “I think that ultimately that’s something that all of us need — hope.”
Concert season begins

BY DOROTHY ANDRIES
For Sun-Times Media

Fall concerts by area symphony orchestras begin in September. Note the ones that appeal to you and buy some tickets. Nothing beats a live performance.

ARS VIVA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA opens its 19th season at 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 28. Dvorak's "Carnival Overture," Laid's "Symphonie Espagnole" with concertmaster David Taylor as violin soloist, and Symphony No. 4 by Brahms. An all-Beethoven program is set for 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7: "Coriolan Overture," Piano Concerto No. 4 with Israeli pianist Alon Goldstein, and Symphony No. 4. Concerts conducted by Alan Heatherington at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Tickets are $75 to $36. See arsviva.org or call (847) 673-6300.

NORTHWEST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA joins with Main Street Opera in a concert production of Beethoven's "Fidelio," at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 5. Conductor is Kim Diehnelt and narrator will be Aaron Hunt. The second concert will be at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23 and will feature Schumann's Symphony No. 4, Marcello's Concerto for Oboe with Masahto Sugihara as soloist, and Dale Trumbore's "Harmony in Gold." Both programs at Forest View Educational Center, 2121 S. Goebbert Road, Arlington Heights. Tickets $20; $15 for seniors and $10 for students, plus a nominal service fee. See northwestsymphony.org.

SKOKIE VALLEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA opens its 53rd season with Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 as well as music featuring the winners of the orchestra's Young Artist Competition at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 12. Its second concert is at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16: "Music of the Chosen People" including Bruch's "Kol Nidrei" and works by Bloch, Goldmark, Mahler and Korngold. All programs are conducted by Francesco Milloko in the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Single tickets are $44 to $35/seniors $41 to $27. Special pricing for 25 and under. (847) 679-0501, ext. 3014, email info@svso.org or see svso.org.

PARK RIDGE CIVIC ORCHESTRA begins its 21st season at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29 with a Halloween concert at the Pickwick Theatre in Park Ridge. Playing the organ, which rises out of the stage, Matt Haider opens the evening with Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor and concludes the program with selections from "Phantom of the Opera" by Andrew Lloyd Webber. "The music is held together by a story narrated by actor Randy Steinmeyer," said music director Victor Muenzer, who is conducting the concert. "It will be scary, but not too scary for the little kids."

The program is titled "Wicked" and includes soprano Linden Christ singing highlights from the Broadway hit with music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz. The program also includes Liast's "Mephisto Waltz" No. 1, a suite from John Williams' Academy Award-winning score for the 1975 film "Jaws," and an excerpt from Stravinsky's Firebird Suite. Single tickets are $25; $20 seniors and students over 18; free for 18 and under. Call (847) 692-7726 or visit parkridgecivicorchestra.org.
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Family Friendly

Kayaks and kites highlight Family Fun Fest

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
For Sun-Times Media

There will be plenty of free activities and entertainment at Lincolnwood Centennial Park, 6801 McCormick Blvd., during Family Fun Fest, 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14.

“We're going to have kite decorating and then a space where the kids can fly kites with their families,” said Aryn Fletcher, youth program coordinator for the Village of Lincolnwood. Kids will be given the kites for free.

There will also be Zumba demonstrations and karate demonstrations. In addition, Kayak Chicago will offer kayak runs up and down the North Shore Channel.

An instructor will lead people to the nine-hole disc golf course and give them playing tips. Younger kids can burn off energy in a bounce house.

Live music will be provided by Mark Dvorak in the park’s amphitheater.

Fletcher said that they run the Family Fun Fest “to get people out to Centennial Park to utilize the space.”

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

LOTS TO LEARN

You and your kids can discover how to do everything from performing magic tricks to making felted soap to taking better photos at the How-To Fest, 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14 at the Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. Experts will share their skills in a wide variety of fields at this interactive family event. Food vendors will be on hand.

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

FOLK FAVORITES

The Parents' Choice Award-winning folk music duo Fox and Branch will perform a Second Sunday Family Program, 2-3 p.m. Sept. 14 at the Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. Audience members will be laughing, singing and dancing along at this high-energy show. Pick up free tickets in KidSpace starting at 1:30 p.m.

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

STAR ATTRACTION

There will be Storm Troopers from the 501st Legion, tabletop role-playing games and crafts for all ages at the Star Wars Extravaganza, noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13 at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. The Role-Playing Games are recommended for kids in fifth through eighth grades.

For details, call (847) 324-3149 or go to www.skokielibrary.info.
Movie Review

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Film Critic

Whatever hard lessons Errol Flynn learned in the last 17 years of his life, staying away from very young girls after his 1942 statutory rape trial clearly wasn’t one of them.

In fact, when the 50-year-old erstwhile swashbuckler died in 1959 it was in the questionable company of his 17-year-old fiancé, who was a 15-year-old virgin when they met. The revelation of their two-year affair was a sensational scandal at the time and it certainly has the makings of a juicy story today. Yet “The Last of Robin Hood” takes a surprisingly sympathetic approach to everyone involved that drains the whole business of sordid entertainment value.

Written and directed by Richard Glatzer and Wash Westmoreland, “The Last of Robin Hood” begins with the press mobbing young Beverly Aadland (Dakota Fanning) after Flynn’s death. When Beverly faints, the film flashes back two years to the day she shows up at a studio to dance in the chorus of a Gene Kelly movie where she catches the eye of Flynn (Kevin Kline), who offers her a private audition, takes her to dinner and then seduces her in his mansion.

So far, so sleazy, especially since we get the feeling Beverly was just one in a long, long line of routine conquests for Flynn. And that Beverly, while a bit emotional about her brusque deflowering, wasn’t particularly surprised. After all, she’d been working in show biz for years, passing for 18 thanks to a phony birth certificate rigged by her ambitious stage mom Florence (Susan Sarandon), and Flynn’s reputation as “a notorious ladies’ man” was common knowledge.

But Glatzer and Westmoreland make the story shift gears by having Flynn unaccountably yearn for more of the girl’s company, leading to a full-fledged romance.

A little more more outright lechery and lust might have been a good thing for “The Last of Robin Hood,” which takes pains to sanitize the story. And to portray all three characters as empathetically as possible.

Once it’s established that Flynn had genuine feelings for the girl, there’s nowhere for the story to go, beyond the great efforts he made to advance her career. In one mind-boggling, yet apparently true scene, Flynn attempts to negotiate a deal with Stanley Kubrick, offering to star in “Lolita” if Beverly is given the title role. A little later, Flynn produces “Cuban Rebel Girls,” his final film, with Beverly as his co-star. Somehow, though, neither of these episodes live up to their outrageous potential.

Glatzer and Westmoreland are more interested in tracking Flynn’s almost meekly grateful happiness with Beverly, and that’s nice (in a creepy sort of way), but not especially interesting. Or entirely convincing. After all, this is the man who titled his autobiography, “My Wicked, Wicked Ways.”
Food

Prosit! Chefs go glam for Oktoberfest

BY VERONICA HINKE
For Sun-Times Media

From Hefeweizen hummus to beer mustards to carefully crafted pickled squash — chefs everywhere are bringing the bling this Oktoberfest season.

Chef Paul Virant may have been busier than usual lately, prepping his newest restaurant, Vistro in Hinsdale, but he still found time to inject inventive flavors into his latest recipes.

Virant developed his new Paw Paw Beer Mustard recipe just in time for another grand opening — the launch of Moody Tongue Brewing Company in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood. “We make beer mustard at Vie and Perennial Virant,” he explained. “So when we were asked to participate in the event with Moody Tongue Brewmaster Jared Rouben, we immediately gravitated toward making a mustard with his paw paw brew.”

At the Moody Tongue grand opening, Virant arranged and served small plates of thinly sliced pork loin over a smear of the Paw Paw Beer Mustard. He topped each serving with a few mustard greens and a dollop of his Butternut Squash Aigre-Doux.

To achieve the rich flavor and texture of the mustard, Virant uses a butter he makes with paw paw, a fruit whose custard-like texture leads many to compare it to bananas or mangos.

What else does the mustard accent well? “Meats and beets!” Virant said. “I think smoked, grilled, cured and roasted meats of all types go well with a fruity mustard.”

And Chef John des Rosiers has been using rye beer to make mustard. “We always pour a beer based on rye at inovasi, and we were working up different mustard recipes to use as our house mustard, so we tried a rye beer and it worked wonderfully.”

Des Rosiers, chef/proprietor of inovasi in Lake Bluff and Wisma in Lake Bluff and Chicago, uses his rye beer mustard to accent everything from sandwiches to entrées. A favorite beer of his to use is Great Lakes Brewing Company’s Rye of the Tiger IPA.

For all the new twists, some still prefer an old-fashioned Oktoberfest. Chef Jeff Modica’s menu for Glenview House’s 3rd Annual Oktoberfest Tent Party on Sept. 20 will include all the usual favorites like their house-made sauerkraut.

“While we’re known for putting twists on many standard dishes at other times of the year, for Oktoberfest we don’t mess with tradition,” Modica said. After all, not much can beat a good old brat with house-made kraut. Prosit!

PHA PAW BEER MUSTARD

1/2 cup black mustard seeds
1/2 cup yellow mustard seeds
1 1/2 cups Champagne vinegar
2 cups Moody Tongue Cold Press Paw Paw Belgian beer
2 cups paw paw butter (recipe below)
1 cup dry mustard powder
5 teaspoons all-purpose flour
3 tablespoons honey
1/2 cup dark brown sugar
2 teaspoons salt
2 teaspoons black peppers

3/4 teaspoon turmeric, ground
1/4 teaspoon cayenne, ground
1/8 teaspoon cloves, ground

Combine seeds with 1 cup of vinegar and 1/2 cup of beer. Refrigerate overnight. Combine remaining ingredients, and bring to a simmer. Add seeds and liquid and simmer to desired consistency, about 20 minutes. Season, to taste. Puree mixture to break up the seeds slightly.

Paw Paw Butter
10 pounds paw paw, pitted and peeled
1 cup lemon juice
1 cup sugar

3/4 cup water
Bring ingredients to a boil, simmer for one hour. Pass through food mill (large holes). Process aconvection oven to 300 degrees. Bring the butter to a boil, stirring constantly. Place the butter to a hotel pan and place in the oven. Bake for two hours (or to the right consistency and flavor), stirring every half hour. Fill butter into clean, warm jars. Process 16-ounce containers for 10 minutes in a boiling water bath. Containers must be submerged the whole time. Allow hot containers to air cool.

Butternut Squash Sherry Maple Aigre-Doux

2 pounds butternut squash (about one large squash), peeled, quartered lengthwise and sliced 1/4 inch
1 3/4 cups Lustau East India Solera Sherry (flavor to taste)
1/2 cup maple syrup
2/3 cup sherry vinegar
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon black pepper, ground
1 cup (1 medium onion) candy onion slices

Combine squash, sherry, vinegar, maple syrup, onions and salt in large saucepan, bring to a boil (covered). Remove the cover and simmer for five minutes. Pack squash and onions in clean, warm 32-ounce canning jars and fill with hot liquid (180 degrees). Seal with two-piece canning lids. Process in a boiling water canner for 30 minutes (beginning the processing time when the water returns to a boil). At the end of the processing time, remove jars and cool away from drafts. Store sealed jars in a cool, dry location. Check pH of each batch within 24 hours. Keep records.

Recipes adapted from Paul Virant of Perennial Virant, Vie Restaurant and Vistro
SATURDAY, SEPT. 13

Morton Grove Farmers Market
8 a.m.: The market features favorites such as seasonal fruits and vegetables, meats, eggs, baked goods, cheeses, honey, handcrafted items, natural bath and body products, gifts, prepared foods, 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.

The Spirit of Peoria Lunch and Cruise
9 a.m.: Join friends for a trip to Peoria, Illinois for a hot-lunch buffet aboard the Spirit of Peoria and a cruise up and down the Illinois River. The group departs and returns to Mather's. Cost includes transportation, lunch and the cruise. Attendees should wear comfortable and weather-appropriate clothing and footwear. Registration ends Aug. 20. Mather's, 7314 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago. Call 773-774-4804. $68-$95.

Second Saturday Coffeehouse: Christine Steyer
8 p.m.: Operatic soprano Christine Steyer performs a recital featuring arias from "The Marriage of Figaro," "Tosca," and "The Gypsy Baron." She also performs other songs. Accompanying her is pianist Martha Johnson and narrator Paul Geiger. An open mic precedes the recital, with a sign-up 7:30 p.m. Refreshments are served. Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-3334. $8-$12 donation.

Kinobe and the Wamu Spirit
9 p.m.: Uganda-based multi-instrumentalist Herbert Kinobe (Chinobay) presents a synthesis of African roots and contemporary folk music. He performs songs from the album "Kinobe and the Wamu Spirit" and "Kinobe 2." His ensemble consists of five to six instruments. The group performs a variety of instruments, including drums, marimbas, xylophones, and other African instruments. The event includes refreshments, a raffle, soft drinks, coffee, and snacks. Sold out. Tickets are available at the door. Skokie. Call 847-663-0484. $26-$28.

Sookie Farmers Market
7:30 a.m.: The Sookie Farmers Market brings vendors in from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin that sell fresh produce, cheese, spices, flowers and other sundry items. Select days offer entertainment such as live music. Pets and dogs are not allowed in the market. Sookie Farmers Market open since 1975 is sponsored by the Consumer Affairs Commission. Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St., Skokie. Call 847-673-0500.

Family Fun and Safety Fair
Noon: The family-friendly event includes tours of fire trucks, ambulances and the Evanston Fire Safety House, rides, music, refreshments and more. Presence Saint Francis Hospital, 355 Ridge Ave., Evanston. Call 847-867-8728.

Submit your event
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WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 17

Critic’s Choice: 'The Old Man and the Sea'
1 p.m.: The group watches the film version of the book read during the month, "The Old Man and the Sea" by Ernest Hemingway, followed by a discussion comparing the book and the film. Mather's, 7314 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago. Call 773-774-4804.

Explore! Tie-Dye
4 p.m.: Create tie-dye with Sharpie markers and learn the science behind colors. For students in grades four to six. Park Ridge Public Library, 20 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3123.

Grandparent’s Day Dinner
6 p.m.: Join for dinner, entertainment, photographs, games and a memorable time with grandparents and grandchildren. Tickets are given to students the week of the event. Dress code is nice casual. Resurrection College Prep High School, 7500 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago. Call 773-776-6161. $14 students; $16 adults.

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.

Graham Elwood
6 p.m.: Elwood is a native of Madison, Wis., and also spent time in Evanston as a youth. He has appeared on "The Late Late Show" on CBS and "The Sarah Silverman Program" on Comedy Central. Shows are at 8 p.m. Aug. 21-24 and Sept. 17-20, with additional performances at 10:30 p.m. Aug. 23 and 24 and Sept. 19 and 20. Zanies Comedy Night Club Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont. Call 847-813-0484. $20, plus a two-drink minimum.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 18

Hot Ticket: 'Draft Day'
2 p.m.: See the 2014 film "Draft Day." Rated R. Runs 1 hour, 50 minutes. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. For more information, see GO CALENDAR, next page.
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MARC ANTHONY
Cambio de Piel Tour
8 p.m.: Allstate Arena, 6820 Mannheim Road, Rosemont. For more information, call 847-635-6601.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 21
Pete Seeger Tribute
2 p.m.: Mark Dvorak and back-up singers cover Pete Seeger songs. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-965-4220.

ALL ABOUT LOVE
2 p.m.: Kym Frankovelgia, cabaret singer, performs emotionally-charging repertoire from "The Greatest Generation". Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-677-5277.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 26
EDWARD GOREY: WICKED AND WHIMSICAL
3 p.m.: Loyola University of Chicago Museum of Art docent Sherry Avila gives a presentation on artist, author, and grand master of the comic macabre Edward Gorey. A prize drawing follows the presentation. Mother's, 7314 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago. Call 773-774-4804. $5 suggested donation.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 27
PICTURE THIS: YOU CAN WRITE A SCREENPLAY
10 a.m.: Paul Klatt guides attendees through the steps of creating a successful screenplay in six-week course. Learn what makes a movie interesting and use the tools of the trade to turn a story into a script. Call 708-867-2299 to register. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights.

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DOLPHIN TALE 2
Rated PG for some mild thematic elements
Stars: Morgan Freeman, Ashley Judd, Nathan Gamble
Years after saving the life of the rescued dolphin Winter with a prosthetic tail, the Clearwater Marine Hospital comes to her assistance again when her surrogate mother dies. Director Charles Martin Smith returns for the sequel.

THE DROP
Rated R for some strong violence and pervasive language
Stars: Tom Hardy, Noomi Rapace, James Gandolfini
A Brooklyn bartender (Hardy) becomes involved when the bar owned by his boss (Gandolfini) is robbed while holding money for the mob. Michael R. Roskam (“Bullhead”) directed the drama.

NO GOOD DEED
Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence, menace, terror, and for language
Stars: Idris Elba, Taraji P. Henson
An escaped convict (Elba) terrorizes a suburban mom (Henson) and her family after she lets him into her home to make a call. Sam Miller (British TV’s “The Bill”) directed the thriller.

THE SKELETON TWINS
Rated R for language, some sexuality and drug use
Stars: Bill Hader, Kristen Wiig, Luke Wilson, Ty Burrell
After coincidentally cheating death on the same day, estranged twins (Hader and Wiig) reunite and attempt to mend their relationship. Craig Johnson (“True Adolescents”) directed the Sundance festival prizewinner.

WHEN THE GAME STANDS TALL
Rated PG for thematic material, a scene of violence, and brief smoking
Stars: Jim Caviezel, Michael Chiklis, Alexander Ludwig, Laura Dern
Considering that the De La Salle High School Spartans are the winningest team in high-school football history, if not the winningest team in any sport, ever, it’s interesting that “When the Game Stands Tall” is essentially a movie about losing. Not flat-out, over-and-done losing, but losing as an opportunity to learn moral lessons, as in winning is less important than teamwork, brotherhood and faith. The Christian-themed film spotlights the 12-year, 151-game winning streak of the Spartans football team — and what happened when these Goliaths ran into their David.
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This one is a shocker. As of the start of the 2014 season, how many Heisman Trophy-winning quarterbacks do you think are members of the NFL Hall of Fame? Believe it or not, the answer is just one. Any guesses? Here's a hint: he won the Heisman in 1963. Of the more than two dozen quarterbacks who have been awarded the Heisman as college football's best player, the only one who went on to a Hall-of-Fame NFL career was Roger Staubach, with Dallas.

If your team picks a quarterback in the first round of the draft, don't count on automatic success in the NFL. A recent study of all 35 QBs chosen in Round One showed that less than one in three – only 11, to be precise – became long-term starters. Of those, nine started at least 30 games in college. The only two with fewer than 30 college starts were Drew Bledsoe and Aaron Rodgers.

Whatever happened to all those teen tennis stars who used to dominate the sport? Pete Sampras won a Grand Slam title at age 19, Boris Becker won Wimbledon at 17, Tracy Austin the U.S. Open at 16. But in 2014, not one teenager in the world was ranked among the ATP's top 100 players. The prevailing thought is that the sport has become so physically, mentally and emotionally demanding that teens are no longer mature enough to rise to the top.
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HOROSCOPES: SEPTEMBER 17 — SEPTEMBER 23

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) An offer to help with a stalled project should reassure you that you have a workable plan in spite of the problems so far in getting it running.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A past problem about a workplace situation reemerges early in the week. Talking things out helps ease tensions by midweek, but some hurt feelings could linger.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Optimistic aspects dominate your efforts. However, expect to confront some criticism, so keep an open mind. But overall, it's your views that will count.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Social interaction with new people, especially on the job, could be a bit strained in the early part of the week. But the awkwardness passes as you get to know each other better.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Expect news about a follow-up to a workplace change that could make a difference in your career path. Meanwhile, mellow friends widen your social circle.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Enjoy your well-earned plaudits for a job well done. Be aware that some people might not share the admiration. Might have to work harder to win them over.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) It's a good week to recheck your already overlong "to do" list and decide what to keep and what to discard. Lose the clutter and focus on what's important.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) This is a good time to take a new perspective on what you've been offered. Expanding your view could help to uncover any pluses or minuses that weren't apparent at first.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Applying the usual methods to this week's unique challenges might not work too well. Instead, use your creativity to find a way to resolve problems.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) So what if fate throws up some obstacles this week? Just keep in mind that the sure-footed Goat can get past any barrier by focusing on goals up ahead.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) This week calls for better communication with people in both your private life and the workplace. Start by asking questions, and pay close attention to the answers.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Potentially beneficial workplace changes could be closer than you realize. Make sure you know what's going on so that you're not left high and dry when the good things happen.
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CAR STORY

My Husband's 1966 Ford Fairlane
By Cindy Mazies of New Lenox

Every Aug. 18, my husband Jim and I celebrate our dating anniversary with a trip to A&W. That's where he took me on our first date — he was such a big spender. With our 40th dating anniversary approaching, I was looking for a way to make it special, and with the help of my kids, we found the perfect way.

We wanted to find a vehicle similar to the one Jim and I dated in, a 1967 Ford Fairlane. We ended finding a 1966 Fairlane. I knew it was meant to be when we came across it in Texas, just miles from where my daughter Brandi and son-in-law David were living.

I knew it was meant to be when we came across it in Texas, just miles from where my daughter Brandi and son-in-law David were living. After a test drive, we shipped to my son Brad's house in Merrillville, Indiana. The plan was to make it just like my husband's Fairlane 40 years ago. I showed him pictures and even provided a video of the original car.

My husband was completely unaware. I wanted this to be a surprise.

I purchased the car in March and we moved into a new home in June. I came up with the perfect way to surprise him — to put the car in the empty garage the day we would be moving in.

So for three months, Brad had the car hiding out in his garage while he did all the work. My second son, Scott, traveled a long distance to get the correct bench seat for the front. The entire plan became a complete family effort.

On moving day, things could not have gone any better. Jim backed in the moving van and prepared to unload the boxes. With his back to the garage, he pulled out the loading ramp from the van and I hit the garage door opener.

He bent over to place the ramp on the ground while almost having his backside hit the bumper of the car. In what seemed like an eternity he finally turned around to see his surprise. His reaction was priceless. He never dreamed in a million years that he would own a Fairlane again.

I actually caught him out in the garage sitting in the car around 3 a.m. because he still could not believe it was real.

This year, we celebrated our 41st dating anniversary by going to Ace Drive-In where they still have car hops, put the tray on your window and serve A&W root beer. It felt like it was Aug. 18, 1973, all over again.
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Balourdos sets the tone for Wolves

Sophomore setter models herself after two recent high school standouts

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

WINNETKA — When it comes to volleyball, Niles West sophomore Eleni Balourdos said her two biggest role models are Olivia Rusek and Taylor Tashima.

Rusek, who now plays at Miami (Ohio), starred for the Wolves during her four-year career. She was the team's unquestioned No. 1 offensive option last season and served as a mentor to Balourdos — who ran Niles West's offense as a freshman setter.

"Olivia's a big part of Eleni's progress," Niles West coach Stacy Metoyer said. "Olivia gave her a lot of guidance last year. I think she looks up to Olivia a lot, and Olivia is the best role model that you could ask for. She's humble, she's great in skill, she's a leader."

Balourdos and Rusek play different positions but share many of the same characteristics. Aside from being talented — Balourdos was an all-CSL South selection as a freshman — and passionate about volleyball, they're also excellent leaders. Balourdos was selected as a captain this year, which Metoyer said is the first time a sophomore has been a captain since she's been at Niles West.

While it's an unconventional selection, it makes sense. Metoyer said Balourdos sets a positive example — on the court, in practice and in school — for others to emulate. Moreover, Metoyer said Balourdos is not afraid to speak up, specifically when it comes to identifying and correcting something a teammate is doing wrong.

"She has all the qualities of a leader," Metoyer said.

In the offseason, Balourdos played club volleyball for Wildcat Juniors, one of the area's best clubs and where Rusek and Tashima had played.

Balourdos said she looks up to Tashima, a 2014 New Trier graduate who plays for Northwestern, because of the quality of her sets as well as her aggressiveness.

Balourdos worked with members of a Wildcat Juniors coaching staff that helped Tashima develop into one of the best setters in the country, and Balourdos made big strides in the offseason. Her setting lessons with Evelyn Kim were a big part of her development.

Those lessons helped Balourdos with some of the more subtle aspects of the position, like her "quick hands, not taking forever to set the ball and just making smart decisions in general — like watching where the blocks are," Balourdos said.

Being able to keep one's eye on the ball and sprinting to get underneath it, while simultaneously reading the opposition's front line, is something outstanding setters like Tashima do well. However, doing all three things in a short amount of time is difficult, Balourdos said, and it's an area where she wants to improve.

Metoyer said Balourdos' decision-making has gotten better over the last year, which has been vital because her role is more complex as a sophomore.

Niles West's offensive focus was to set Rusek as much as possible a year ago, Metoyer said, but the Wolves are running more of a spread offense this season. As a result, it's Balourdos' responsibility to make the right read and the right pass — at the correct height and pace — to put the team's hitters in a position to put the ball away.

Balourdos has excelled in this role thus far.

"I'm just really connected with my hitters this year," Balourdos said.
NILES NORTH

Vikings rethink role of outside hitters

Dwyer, Yonan trying to limit mistakes, prolong rallies

BY ERIC VAN DRUM
For Sun-Times Media, @VanDrumSports

In recent years, the stars of the Niles North girls volleyball team have been its outside hitters. Both are undersized for the position — Dwyer is 5-6, Yonan is 5-5 — and their roles are much different than Green's and Louis' a year ago.

"We’re not asking them to be Taylor or Amanda," Cott said. "What we’re asking them to do is be great passers in serve-receive. We’re asking them to play great defense and we’re asking them to keep plays alive when they are set — so hit spots, put the opposing team in tough situations where they can’t run their offense and be in system [like] they want to do. As long as they can play mistake-free volleyball and extend rallies, we’ll eventually be able to get the ball to Amanda Green."

A major facet of mistake-free volleyball is avoiding hitting errors, which Dwyer and Yonan can do by emphasizing ball placement and control over sheer power.

"I can’t just think about hitting the ball as hard as I can, because it could go out," Yonan said. "That’s where placement comes into it. When you’re shorter, that’s how you get more kills — put the ball where they’re [the opposing team’s players are] not.”

The way Dwyer and Yonan hit the ball depends on a couple different factors. If the set from senior Addy Leopoldo is perfect and their timing is right, then both players have the OK from their coach to try to crush the ball into an open spot on the court.

If one of those elements isn’t perfect, or if the duo senses two defenders loading up to attempt a block, a tip or roll shot is a better option to try to extend the point.

"It’s not about getting kills all the time," Dwyer said. "We’re not Taylor Louis, we’re not Amanda, we’re not 6-foot. We just have to just do the job, and put it in play as best as we can.”
Receiver-turned-running back gashes Wolves, scores five touchdowns in victory

BY STEVE SADIN
For Sun-Times Media @sadinstev

SKOKIE — Craig Dawkins had been a running back for Niles North for nine days and he excelled at the position by digging deeper each time the Vikings needed him.

Dawkins, a junior, produced 368 all-purpose yards, scoring five of his team's seven touchdowns in a come-from-behind 48-37 win over crosstown rival Niles West on Saturday at Niles West.

Two days before the Vikings' 49-14 season-opening win over Shepard on Aug. 29, starting running back Barrington Wade, a junior, was injured.

So Coach Mark Egofske switched Dawkins from his slot receiver position to running back.

"He's a phenomenal athlete," Egofske said of Dawkins. "We have no idea how good he can be. He hit .400 for [the Niles North] baseball team. He gets better the more he plays."

Part of Dawkins' magic Saturday was his resilience. Halfway through the second quarter he was shaken up on a play and had to leave the game for six snaps. As soon as he returned, he went 20 yards for a touchdown to get the Vikings within five points of Niles West.

The next time Dawkins touched the ball he returned a kickoff 90 yards for another touchdown. On both scores, as soon as he got a step ahead of the defense, he accelerated.

"When I'm out there I get into a zone," Dawkins said. "When I see daylight I dig down and run faster."

Dawkins wasn't done with injuries or long runs. He limped off the field with 2:37 left in the game and the Vikings ahead 41-37. He came back one play later, took a handoff from senior quarterback Tony Granato and ran 50 yards for another touchdown to give Niles North an insurmountable 48-37 lead.

"You never know when you are going to play football again," Dawkins said of his effort after injury. "You have to dig down and play every play like it's your last."

Dawkins added a 5-yard touchdown run in the third quarter and a 3-yard scoring run in the fourth to put Niles North in front for good.

When Dawkins was out, Granato dug down and stepped up, completing 17-of-22 passes for 173 yards and a touchdown. He also ran for 45 more.

"You can always dig deeper," Granato said.

"He's a phenomenal athlete. We have no idea how good he can be."

Mark Egofske, Niles North head coach
Galanopoulos makes plays while biding time

Junior playing both ways, backing up his older brother at quarterback

BY STEVE SADIN
For Sun-Times Media, @sadinsteve

SKOKIE — Backup quarterbacks usually cannot wait to get their chance to start, but that is not the case this year for Niles West's Matt Galanopoulos.

For now, the Niles West junior is content to be one of two Wolves to start on both offense and defense as he did in a 48-37 loss to Niles North on Saturday. Galanopoulos played wide receiver and cornerback.

One reason Galanopoulos is patient this season is the quarterback who throws him passes and occasionally hands him the ball is his brother, Tommy Galanopoulos, a senior.

"The quarterback gets all the attention and I'll be the quarterback next year," Matt Galanopoulos said. "Now I want to do all I can to help the team."

Against the Vikings, he caught six passes for 48 yards and ran three times for 17 yards.

"On offense you are always going to put him in the game plan," Niles West coach Scott Baum said of Matt Galanopoulos. "You want to design plays to put the ball in his hands, whether it's 12 times or 50 times. He is a phenomenal athlete."

Matt Galanopoulos thinks his experience as a receiver makes him a better defender. He has the ability to think like a player who catches passes on offense and tries to intercept them on defense.

"I know what receivers do," Matt Galanopoulos said. "I know two receivers won't go the same way. If I see where the play is going, I can help another [defender] out."

The Galanopoulos brothers have been throwing the football back and forth since they were in grade school. Matt Galanopoulos actually began playing first.

"I started playing flag football in fourth grade and started tackle in fifth," Tommy Galanopoulos said. "Matt played Pop Warner in second grade so he got a head start."

All that practice together either around the family home or in formal team workouts has made the brothers very comfortable with each other.

"When I need a go-to person I look for Matt," Tommy Galanopoulos said. "It's very cool he's there to make the play."

The brotherly familiarity made decisions easier for Baum, too. He elevated Matt Galanopoulos to the varsity team a year ago and he started in the playoffs.

"He's always been around us so long either watching his brother or playing. It's a natural fit," Baum said.
Niles North players celebrate their win over rival Niles West on Saturday.

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