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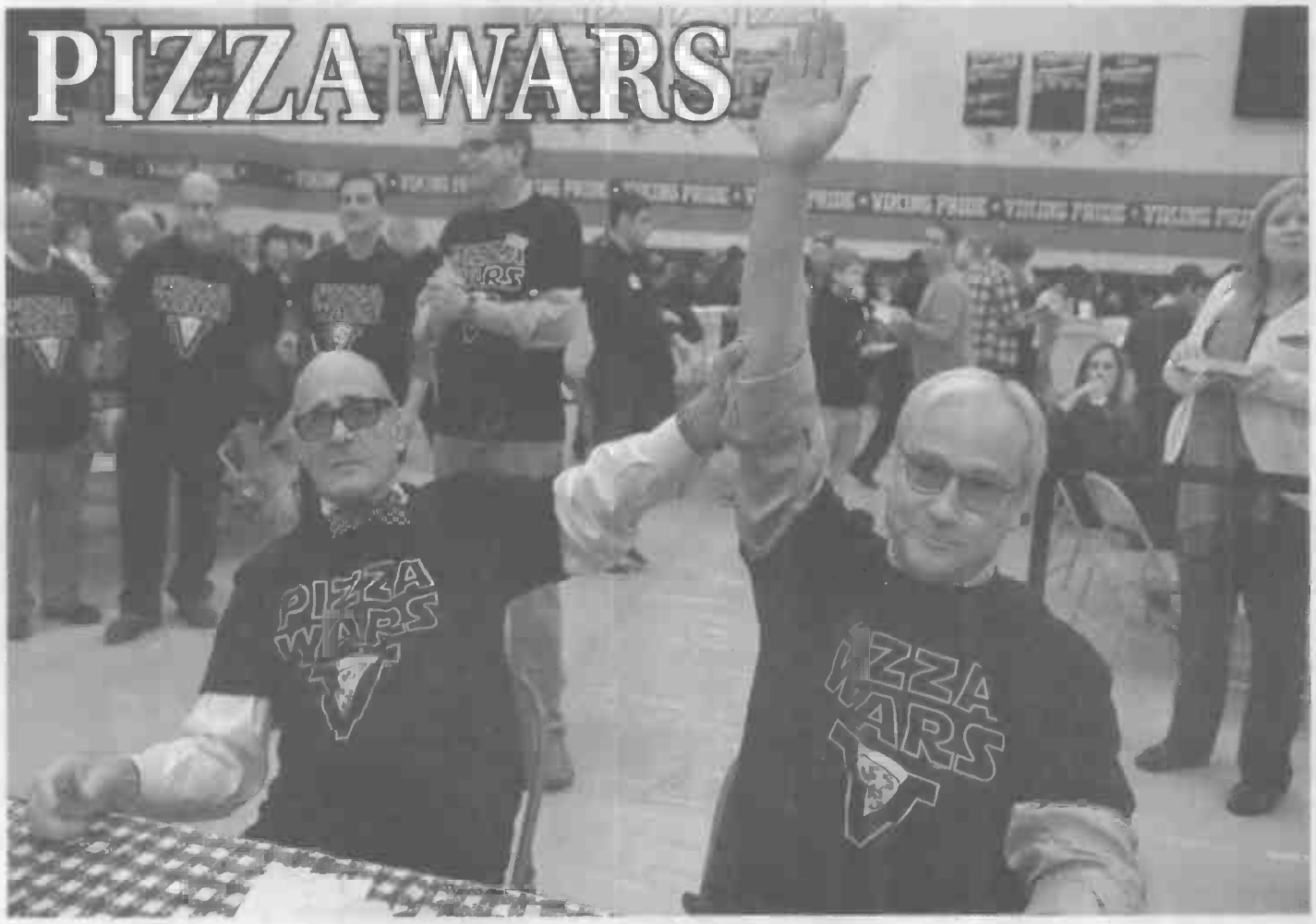

Mayors get saucy at Niles North High School. | PAGE 6

GO

Bruce Graham's 'White Guy on the Bus' premieres at Northlight.

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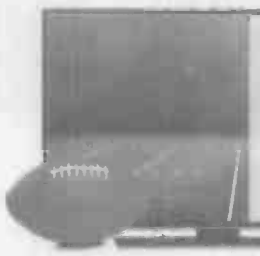
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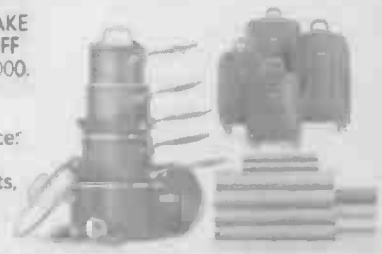

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Mayoral Pizza Wars gets saucy at Niles North

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC
Special to the Tribune @KarieAngellLuc

ABOVE: At the Jan. 15 Pizza Wars, from left, Morton Grove Mayor Daniel DiMaria, Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen, Lincolnwood Mayor Jerry Turry and Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo compete. Mark Collins of Skokie is emcee. | KARIE ANGELL LUC/FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP
LEFT: Makayla Amarin, 3, of Skokie, noshes on a variety of pizza at Niles North High School Jan. 15. | KARIE ANGELL LUC/FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP
FAR LEFT: From left, Brian Novak of Skokie and a Dist. 219 school board candidate with Gretchen Livingston of Evanston and the Evanston Dist. 202 school board. | KARIE ANGELL LUC/FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP

The District 219 Education Foundation fifth annual Pizza Wars at Niles North High School on Jan. 15 brought out at least 850 people with a goal of raising more than $10,000.

Ten pizza restaurants from around the North Shore participated. Lines were long but moved quickly as people of all ages stopped at tables where they could sample as much pizza as they could muster.

And then there were the four mayors who chowed down too. The five-minute pizza and dessert challenge included Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen, Morton Grove Mayor Daniel DiMaria, Lincolnwood Mayor Jerry Turry and Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo.

Przybylo was declared the winner after he finished his portion of a Father & Son Italian Kitchen plate in four minutes. He even helped Turry finish his plate.

Turry simply had to stop and pushed his plate away, inviting others to help him nosh the meal and uplift spirits.

The family-friendly fun addressed the serious matter of raising funds to benefit students in critical need of assistance.

"What we do at the District 219 Education Foundation is raise money so we can help support kids who are unable to buy calculators, computers and fund bus trips to colleges for first generation students," said Keith Baker of The District 219 Education Foundation and Northbrook resident.

"Thirty-seven percent of our students are on a free or reduced hot lunch program meaning they don't have the funds for basic tools for education," said Alyse Burman of Skokie, who is a foundation volunteer director and organizer of the Pizza Wars event.

Her husband Jeff Burman is the District 219 Education Foundation Board of Directors chair.

"We're fortunate that Alyse went to Niles North, I went to Niles East and our son [Scott] went to Niles West, and so we want to give back to the community," Jeff Burman said. "All we want to do is help the kids succeed."

When the foundation was formed in 2007, the goal was to provide basic educational needs but the situation became more severe due to the economy.

The foundation has awarded more than $160,000 in grants and scholarships.

"Today's kids have different and unique and maybe even more difficult challenges than I had growing up," said Przybylo, after winning the mayoral pizza challenge.

"I'm 63 and when I was in high school, I graduated in 1969, it was a different world, less competitive.

"Actually, I grew up in a country, now they're growing up in a world," he said.

Pizza Wars began in the winter of 2011 as a small fundraiser. Five years later, Pizza Wars is a pivotal fundraiser for the foundation and allows area businesses to give back. Pizza Wars has raised more than $25,000 for the foundation in a fun setting that includes the community.

"I like cheesy pizza," said Mikey Sanchez, 12, of Skokie and an Old Orchard Junior High School seventh-grader.

The Sucherman family of Morton Grove liked the flatbread pizza and barbecue chicken pizza.

"I graduated from Niles North and I think it's important to remember where you came from," sad Noel Sucherman, who attended the event with her husband Paul and their sons Colin, 8, and Ethan, 10.

Their oldest son Ryan, 17, a Niles North junior, was in ACT preparation class.

Father & Son Italian Kitchen of Skokie was voted favorite pizza of the event.

"We finally won," said Abbott Smith of Kenilworth, owner of Father & Son.

Smith's restaurant had participated in Pizza Wars twice before and the third time was the charm to be the top vote getter.

"It's fun to be a part of it," Smith said.

The Niles Township High School District 219 Education Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Its purpose is to enrich education for Niles Township High School students by providing additional resources, outside of the regular district budget. Niles Township serves the villages of Skokie, Morton Grove, Lincolnwood, Niles and Golf.

It is incorporated separately from Niles Township High School District 219 and supports alumni programs and events, including fundraising efforts via its Alumni Coming Back program.

The Foundation is located at 7700 Gross Point Road, Skokie, Illinois. Call 847-626-3959 or visit http://www.219foundation.org/.

Maine East documentary to tell of students' World War II fundraising

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Special for Pioneer Press | @istudenkov

In December 1944, students of Maine Township High School raised $551,000 in the matter of weeks to fund the construction of a cargo transport airplane.

Almost 70 years later, the students of Maine East High School – which housed the original Maine Township High School – began working on a documentary that would commemorate this accomplishment. Filming wrapped up in the fall of 2014, and the students are currently editing it together. Phillip Ash, the Maine East's Radio, Television and Broadcasting teacher, has been organizing and overseeing the project. He told this newspaper that the group hopes to have the project finished this spring.

In December 1944, World War II was still raging on all fronts. Maine Township had only one high school. And the site that would become O'Hare International Airport after the war was home to Douglas Aircraft Company's cargo plane factory. It specialized in C-54 "Skymaster" cargo planes, which were designed to carry cargo over long distances.

At the time, the city was served by two major newspapers – Park Ridge Herald-Review and Park Ridge Advocate – which later merged into Park Ridge Herald-Advocate. Their pages were filled to the brim with ads urging readers to buy war bonds that would, among other things, help finance the construction of more Skymasters.

According to the Dec 7, 1944 issue of the Park Ridge Advocate, during the previous week's pep rally, Maine Township superintendent Frank Holmes urged the students to raise $500,000 in war bonds to build a C-54. If they met the goal, the resulting plane would be named after the school.

As the article explained, they didn't have to buy the bonds themselves. If they asked residents and members of local organizations to purchase bonds on the school's behalf, it would still count toward the total. The school already had commitments from city employees, as well as "several clubs and business organizations in Des Plaines and Park Ridge."

The Maine Township students quickly took up to the challenge. The Dec 14, 1944 issue of the Advocate describes their fundraising thusly.

"By Monday night, in the snow and ice, the young people of the school continued their canvass. Over 400 were out in Park Ridge and Des Plaines knocking on doors, and gathering the sales and pledges."

At that point, students already raised $300,000. By Friday, they managed to exceed that goal. The C-54 built using those funds became known as Maine's Flyer.

According to Ash, the idea for a commemorative documentary came from Maine East administration.

"I was approached by [Maine East Principal] Dr. Mike Pressler and [Maine East Fine Arts Department Chair] Mr. Edward Eubank," he said. "They told me that they wished to create a documentary about the story of the Maine Flyer war bond drive and asked me if I would be able to organize and oversee the students as they produced it. I was honored to be asked."

Work on the documentary started in May 2013. During that summer, Maine South students worked with the Park Ridge Historical Society to interview eight Maine Township alumni who were students at the time of the drive. During the summer of 2014, Maine East students and Ash interviewed area historians, compiled photographs and started shooting footage. They started editing the documentary together last fall.

"Currently, three students are involved in the editing of the documentary, but around a dozen students between Maine East and Maine South have participated in some capacity to bring this story to light," said Ash.

In December, they released a nearly three-minute trailer, which was posted on District 207 website. But the documentary still isn't finished. Ash said that for students, finding time to work on it has been tricky.

"Students have classes and extracurricular activities that limit their available hours," he said. "But the students are hitting their stride with the edit and we're hoping to have it completed before spring."

District 207 spokesman David Beery said that the response to the trailer has been overwhelmingly positive.

"Everyone is impressed by the video planning and production talent of Mr. Ash and his students," he said. "Besides that, people who were not familiar with the Maine's Flyer story are in awe that Maine Township students raised so much money in such short order. District 207 is pleased and proud to be able to work with local historians and veterans to commemorate this inspiring story of dedication to a vital cause."

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Park District celebrates end of IceLand renovations

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Special for Pioneer Press | @istudenkov

ABOVE: IceLand mascots Puck and Penny goof around at the podium before the opening ceremony started. | IGOR STUDENKOV/ FOR PIONEER PRESS

LEFT: Niles Park District Board of Commissioners president Ray Czarnik cuts the ribbon, marking the end of IceLand renovations. | IGOR STUDENKOV/ FOR PIONEER PRESS

Officials from Niles Park District and other village municipal organizations assembled at IceLand ice skating facility for the grand opening celebration Saturday, Jan. 17.

The event marked the official end of a two-year renovation project that expanded the outdoor rink and made several additions and alterations to the indoor rink. The festivities started at 10:30 a.m and lasted until 2:30 p.m. The event also included a raffle, a skating performance and appearance by the Chicago Wolves and Chicago Blackhawks mascots. IceLand also waived the usual entry fees, letting visitors skate for free.

The IceLand ice renovation project started in the fall of 2013. During the first phrase, the outdoor rink was replaced with a larger rink that included a roof with light fixtures. The entrance to the inner rink was renovated, and the parking lot was altered to make pick-ups and drop-offs easier.

During the second phrase, which started last summer, mostly involved inner rink building improvements. The lobby gained a new floor, the staff work station was moved to the center and the building gained four new locker rooms. The facility's refrigeration system was replaced with a new system that cool both the outdoor and the indoor rinks.

Work on the outdoor and indoor rinks continued throughout the fall. Most of them were finished by the end of the year, but some last-minute work did take place in the weeks before the opening.

The opening celebrations attracted a number of high-profile attendees. Niles Park District director Joe LoVerde, as well as all members of the Niles Park District Board of Commissioners attended. The ceremony also saw a number of village officials from outside the park district. That included Mayor Andrew Przybylo, village trustees Rosemary Palicki, John Jekot and Danette Matyas, interim Niles Police Department Chief Dennis McEnerney and Niles Village Manager Steve Vinezeano. Former Niles Police Department chief and current village board candidate was also in attendance, as were several officials from Wight construction company, which was constructed to handle the renovations.

Finally, LoVerde made a point of inviting former park district commissioner Jack Leske. Leske served on the board for 18 years, and he saw the construction and eventual completion of the original IceLand structures. Out of all the commissioners who attended the 1971 IceLand opening ceremony, he was the only one still alive.

"I've been back here once in a while," Leske told the Niles Herald-Spectator. "It's kind of a nostalgic return. [Author] Thomas Wolfe says you can't go back to your roots, but here I am."

Looking at the plaque marking the original construction, Leske said he couldn't help but feel wistful.

"I'm the lone survivor," he said.

The celebration started with speeches by assembled officials. LoVerde was the first to speak, thanking the park board, village officials and the staff of the park district in general and IceLand in particular.

"I wanted to thank [IceLand General Manager] Marty Stankowicz and IceLand staff for taking up potions of this project without hesitation," he said.

He also thanked Wight for their work and for being responsive to the park district's requests.

Przybylo spoke net, saying that he was impressed with the renovations.

"It sure is beautiful," he said. "To look at it is amazing. I'm glad to have a chance to thank Joe LoVerde and the entire board. You did a great job. Let the skating begin!"

Current Niles Park District Board of Commissioners president Ray Czarnik, said that he was proud of the renovated facility.

"This is a dream come true for many people who come to IceLand to skate," he said. "I'm proud to bring this to the community. It is so well-deserved. It is a tremendous asset and we are happy to bring it to the community."

During the construction planning process, Czarnik wanted to add a Wall of Fame that would show skaters who started skating in IceLand and went on to greater success. While the renovated lobby didn't include the Wall of Fame, the board still wants to pursue the idea. Czarnik used his speech as an opportunity to urge former players to contact the park district, so that their pictures may go up on the wall.

Ken Osmun, Wight's Group President of Construction, was the last to speak. He praised the park district and thanked everybody who used IceLand for putting up with the inconveniences the construction caused.

"Thank you for being patient," said Osmun. "I think you'll agree it was worth the wait."

With the speeches concluded, the officials walked out to the front entrance to cut the ribbon, officially marking the beginning of the new, fully renovated IceLand.

The celebrations continued for the next few hours. The park district held a raffle, with prices that included Chicago Blackhawks and Chicago Wolves tickets, free registration for spring skating classes and passes for other Park District facilities. Wolves' and Blackhawks' mascots stopped by for visit. And, between 12:00 p.m- 1:20 p.m., Team Iceland and Ice Infinity skating teams put on a performance at the indoor rink.

Stankowicz told Niles Herald-Spectator that he's happy that Niles residents will finally be able to enjoy the renovated facilites.

"I want to thank Joe LoVerde for leading us to reach this goal and the park commissioners for their support," he said. "Let's get some use out of it and let's pay off the construction [costs]."

Niles Park Board candidates talk experience and goals

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Special for Pioneer Press | @istudenkov

This year, three candidates – two of whom are incumbents – are competing for two Niles Park District Board four-year seats.

The candidates represent a wide range of experience. Commissioner Ray Czarnik has been re-elected twice. Commissioner Patrick Byrne was appointed in June 18, 2013 to fill longtime commissioner Elaine Heinen's seat after she left the board due to health concerns. This would be the first time he had to run for the park board seat. Jason Trunco is also running for the board for the first time, but unlike Byrne, he's starting completely from scratch.

Both Czarnik and Byrne told the Niles Herald-Spectator that their administrative and business experiences make them good fits for the board. Trunco said that, as a newcomer, he would bring new ideas to the park district. And all three candidates were unanimous in saying that they loved the park district and they wanted to be a part of it.

Czarnik is the president of River Oaks Chrysler Jeep Dodge dealership in Lansing, Illinois. He has been the Niles Park District commissioner since April 2003. After almost twelve years of service, he said that there was one thing he was especially proud of – the construction of the skate park.

"We listened to the young people of Niles — we listened to them and we built a skate park," said Czarnik. "I think it's one of the biggest events that came out of Niles."

He said that the board should always listen to residents' wishes and feedback. To Czarnik, the skate park – a grassroots initiative that became a reality – was an ultimate expression of that.

He also said that he was proud of the way the board has been able to manage the Park District finances.

"We have renovated or built or improved every facility in the park district since I've been there," said Czarnik. "Every single building is state of the art, and I'm just proud of the staff and employees they have, We were able to put it together without raising property taxes."

He also takes pride in the way the park district navigated the recession.

"Even in [economically] tough times, all we did was tighten another notch in our belt and worked harder," said Czarnik. "We never increased the prices of our programs or our preschool or anything.We felt it was very important to keep pricing in line, even with our struggling economy. Our programs continue to improve and get better – all without increasing the fees."

He said that, if re-elected, he will continue to use his experience on the board and in the private sector to kee

"I think my record speaks for itself," said Czarnik. "I'm a businessman, not a politician. What I do is listen to residents and do the right thing for the Village of Niles. We hold people accountable.

"I run a dealership with $40 million profits. This [business experience] is what I can bring to the Park District – and you can see that every year. It's something I bring to the table and I'm proud of it."

He said that holding the line on property taxes will continue to be a priority for him.

"We've met the budget and never exceeded it," said Czarnik. "As a resident of Niles myself, I know what it feels like to see taxes raised."

Byrne has been an account executive at several companies. Over the past six years, he worked at Arlington Heights based Tapes Etc. Prior to being appointed to the Niles Park District board, he served on Culver Elementary School Board of Education for eight years.

Byrne told Niles Herald-Spectator that he always believed that it was important to give back to the community he lived in. When his children attended Culver, he served on the board. But once they graduated, he decided to try his hand at another public institution. When a vacancy opened up on the Park District board, he jumped at the chance.

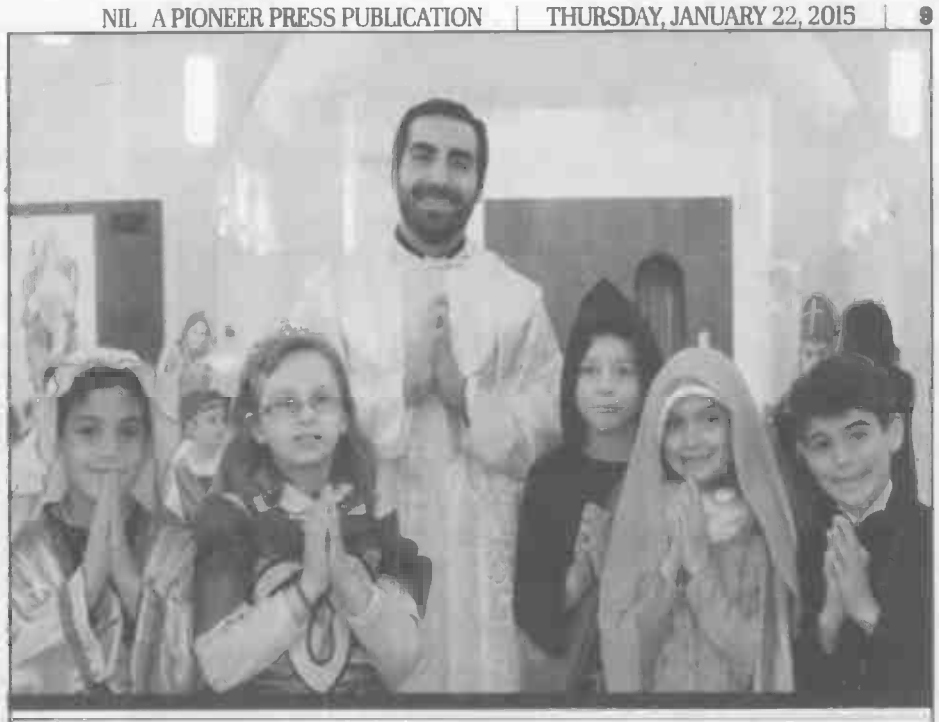
"I thought the park district would be a logical step," said Byrne. "My kids went through just about every program in the park district. It's very well-run."

When asked if there was anything he was proud of, Byrne said he was proud to do his part to make the IceLand skating rink renovation a reality. The facility has been going through significant renovations, revamping the indoor rink and significantly expanding the outdoor rink.

"With the popularity of hockey, it's great that we have two full-sized rinks that have been getting a lot of use," said Byrne. "That's something I really feel I can put my name to."

When asked why Niles residents should vote for him, Byrne cited his business experience, as well as his experience on

SEE CANDIDATES, PAGE 13 »



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maryseatofwisdom

Teen struck by car in Maine East parking lot

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com | @jen_pioneer

A Maine East High School student was struck by a car while walking in a school parking lot, Park Ridge police reported.

The 14-year-old Niles boy was hit by a 2011 Toyota Corolla after school had ended for the day on Jan. 12. According to the accident report, the driver of the Toyota, a 19-year-old man from Glenview, said he was making a left turn in the parking lot and was "blinded by the sun," preventing him from seeing the student.

Police said the boy suffered cuts to his left hand and both knees. He was not treated by paramedics.

The driver was ticketed for failure to yield to a pedestrian, police said.

POLICE BLOTTER

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

BATTERY

Rae Cooper, 66, of 7141 Niles Ave., Niles, was charged with battery on Jan. 8. Police said a 49-year-old female friend accused Cooper of scratching her face and pulling on her arms, aggravating a shoulder injury. According to police, the victim said the physical altercation occurred as she tried to stop Cooper, whom she believed was intoxicated, from leaving her Niles Avenue home and getting into a car. The victim was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital. Cooper has a Feb. 19 court date.

THEFT

Norman Smith, 57, of Chicago, was charged with felony identify theft, unlawful possession of a fraudulent license and attempted retail theft on Jan. 9 after he allegedly tried to make a $1,364 purchase on a credit card that did not belong to him. Police said Smith attempted to buy tools and eight gift cards, each with a $100 value, from a store on the 900 block of Civic Center Drive using a store credit card account belonging to a man in New Jersey. Smith was also alleged to have presented a fraudulent driver's license to police. Smith remained in custody at Cook County Jail. He has a Jan. 22 court date.

DUI

Juanito Roque, 58, of 4141 Mulford Ave., Skokie, was charged with driving under the influence on Jan. 14 after he was reportedly seen driving with only one headlight and crossing over lane markings on the 5600 block of Howard Street just before midnight. He has a Feb. 23 court date.

CRIME BRIEFS

BURGLARY

Two apartment units on the 9100 block of Elmwood Drive were reported burglarized on the afternoon of Jan. 12. Police were called to the building by a woman who reported that she returned to her apartment at 2:30 p.m. to find her door ajar and noises coming from the residence. The woman ran downstairs and called police, who said the burglars had fled prior to the arrival of officers. While investigating this burglary, police observed pry marks on the front door of another, currently unoccupied unit.

A condominium unit on the 8800 block of Golf Road was reported burglarized on the afternoon of Jan. 12, police said. No future details were provided.

BURGLARY TO VEHICLE

A vehicle was burglarized overnight between Jan. 9 and Jan. 10 on the 6700 block of Albion Avenue, but nothing was reported missing. The front passenger side window was reportedly broken to gain entry.

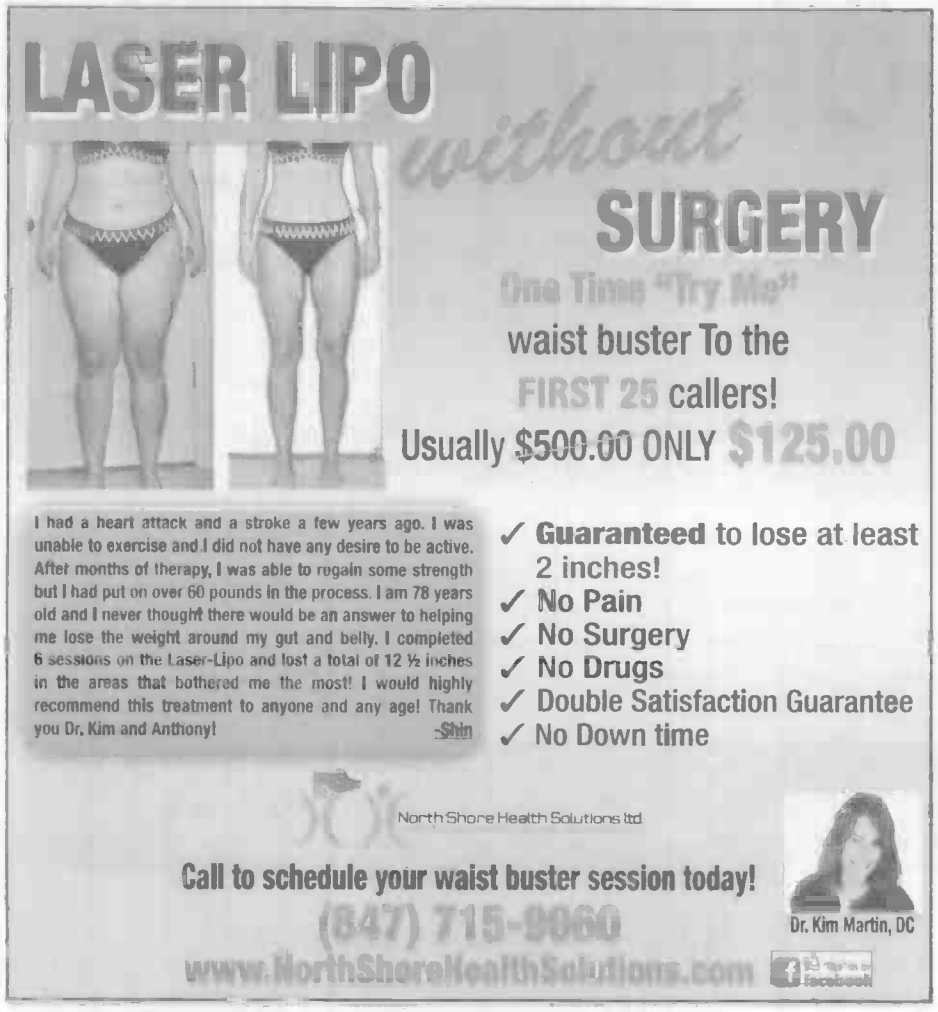
PROPERTY DAMAGE

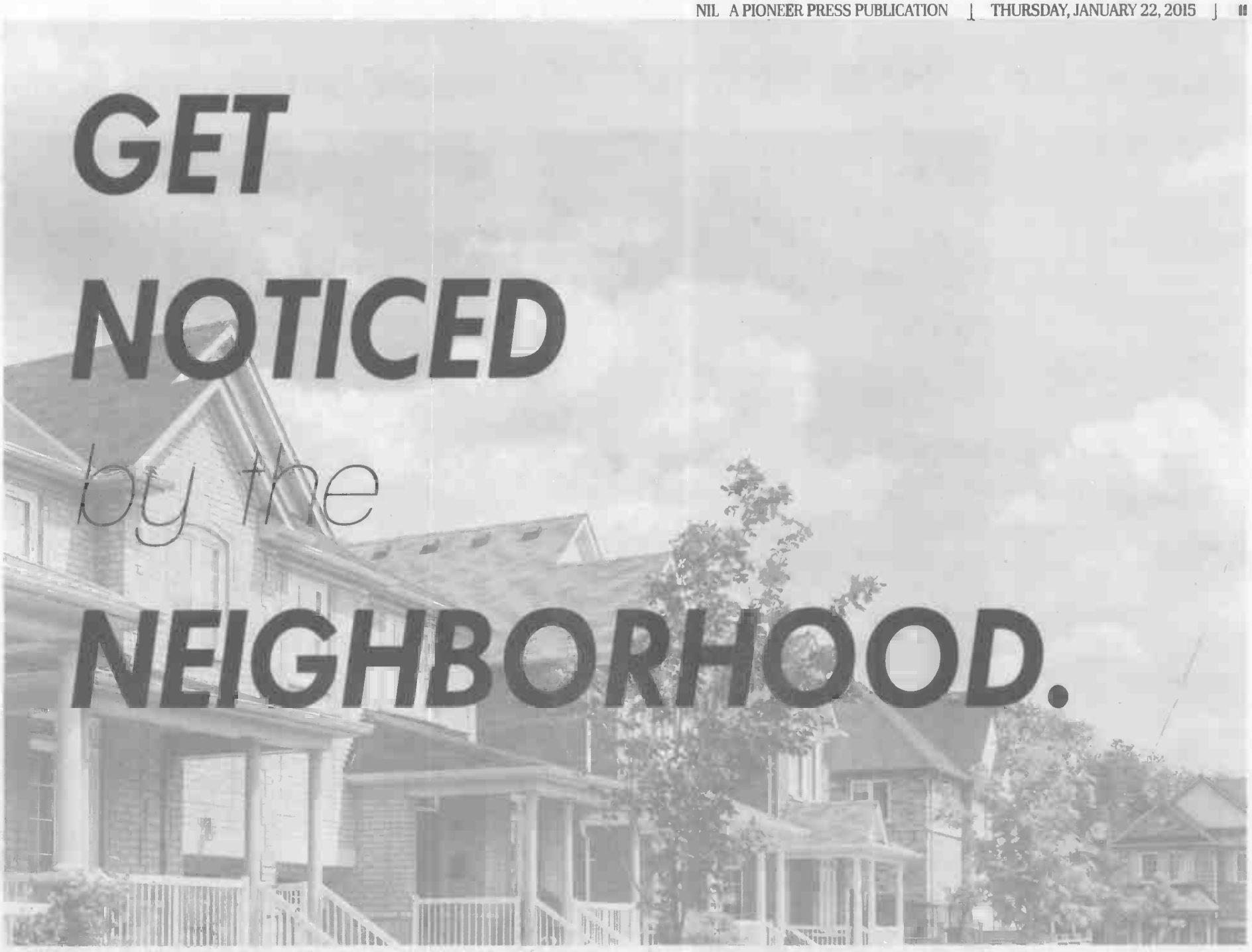
Someone smashed the windshield of an SUV parked between Jan. 9 and Jan. 10 on the 8900 block of Washington Street. A wiper blade was also broken and a hole was made in the roof, police said.

THEFT

Two employees of a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center are suspected of changing prices on items between Oct. 2 and Nov. 26 and then purchasing them, resulting in a $1,400 loss, police said. A report was made by the store on Jan. 12.

Catalytic converters were stolen between Jan. 9 and Jan. 13 from from two vans parked in lots on the 7800 block of Lehigh Avenue and the 6100 block of Howard Street.





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Duckworth says she's considering Senate bid against Kirk

BY KATHERINE SKIBA
Chicago Tribune

Rep. Tammy Duckworth, an Iraq War veteran beginning her second term in the House of Representatives, said Monday that she's ready to explore the possibility of a challenge to Sen. Mark Kirk in 2016.

Duckworth, a Democrat from Hoffman Estates, spoke in an interview with the Tribune about a possible run against Kirk, a Republican from Highland Park.

"I'm humbled by the encouragement that I'm receiving to run for the Senate," Duckworth said, "and I think it's pretty clear that people are looking for a change, and I'm going to explore the possibility. I'm ready to really explore the possibility of a run."

Duckworth said she has begun speaking to her husband and close advisers and aides about a possible Senate run. She said she still needed to have a discussion with officials at the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, among other people.

Duckworth, 46, who gave birth to her first child Nov. 18, said she wanted her baby to be 2 months old before she took a serious look at a Senate race. She is on maternity leave until Feb. 16 and will not attend Tuesday's State of the Union address.

Both Duckworth and Kirk are known for their military records, and both have overcome major medical challenges.

Duckworth lost both of her legs in 2004 during the Iraq War when the Black Hawk helicopter she was piloting was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade.

Kirk, 55, is a retired commander in the Navy Reserve. He served almost 10 years in the House before he was elected in 2010 to the Senate. He suffered a major stroke in 2012 and returned to the U.S. Senate floor in 2013.

Kirk late last year told the Tribune that he is running for re-election "come hell or high water."

Congresswoman Tammy Duckworth speaks speaks in September at an Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital town hall meeting, where veterans voiced their concerns they may have about their health care. | FILE PHOTO

Talking about a potential challenge from Duckworth, he said last fall: "To fight and lose a Senate race against Kirk is a terrible start to a career." That statement was made to The Hill in a story published Nov. 21.

Duckworth, asked about Kirk's remark, thanked the senator for his interest in her career and noted that he would not be among those she consulted before making a decision on whether to get in the race.

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Concealed-carry permits in Illinois top 91,000

TRIBUNE WIRE REPORTS

Illinois State Police say more than 91,000 concealed-carry permits have been issued statewide since the state began allowing guns to be carried in public a year ago.

State police say 91,651 permits had been granted by the end of 2014.

Cook County, which includes Chicago, led the way with almost 24,000 permits, or more than one-quarter of Illinois' total. Will County was a distant second, with 6,134.

Nearly 5,600 permits were issued in DuPage County and 4,252 were issued in Lake County.

Illinois in 2013 became the last state in the nation to sign off on allowing concealed carry.

State police say the number of permits issued last year in Illinois peaked at about 18,000 in March and April before sharply declining. Last month, about 5,000 permits were approved.

The state denied more than 2,300 applications.

Here are the 10 counties with the most permits.

1. Cook, 23,921
2. Will, 6,134
3. DuPage, 5,577
4. Lake, 4,252
5. Madison, 3,301
6. Kane, 2,873
7. St. Clair, 2,642
8. McDonough, 2,555
8. Winnebago, 2,141
9. Sangamon, 2,081
10. Tazewell, 1,916

Associated Press

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

CANDIDATES

the Culver Elementary School Board of Education.

"[The experience] gives me the knowledge of how things work," he said. "I would like to keep being involved in this process. I think I have a lot to contribute."

Trunco works at Mt Prospect-based Inter Continental Trading. He served as soccer coach and an umpire at the Park District while his daughter was on the team.

Trunco serves on the board of the Morton Grove based Skomor Soccer Club. The experience inspired him to try to run for the park board.

"I thought I'd like to be involved with something within Niles that is like that," he said.

He added that he's always been impressed with the Park District's programs and staff, which was a major draw, and that he has nothing but respect for Park District Director Joe LoVerde.

"Joe LoVerde has been nothing but a gentleman," said Trunco. "He's been nothing but sincere, why wouldn't I want to be part of something like [the Niles Park District Board]?"

"I'll never say anything bad about the [current] board members," he said. "Why would I say anything about the board that runs things so well?"

What he hoped to do was bring a fresh perspective to the board.

"I'm not looking to make changes, I'm not looking to rock the boat," said Trunco. "I hope to be a fresh a set of eyes and look for new ideas, new opportunities I may see. My main focus is to come in and see how everything goes."

Out of the five current commissioners, Byrne and Commissioner Chris Zalinski were appointed within the last two years, while commissioner Dennis O'Donovan was originally elected in April 2011 and commissioner Julie Genualdi was originally appointed to the board in September 2011.

He said he is already getting support from local businessmen. Trunco specifically named Dominic Celli, owner of Celli's Beef fast food restaurant.

"[Celli] has seen the work I do with kids with different organizations," he said. "He sees that I'm a very positive influence for children, a very positive influence for the community. That's why he said the other day 7 Jason, I'm going to support you 100 percent."

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Family's dream realized with Creative Paths Learning Center

MIKE ISAACS
misaacs@pioneerlocal.com | @SKReview_Mike

Creative Paths Learning Center Executive Director Amber Grafman (left) and teacher Eden Lee host a Thanksgiving feast for the children at the new Creative Paths Learning Center in Skokie. | MIKE ISAACS/PIONEER PRESS

For children at Creative Paths Learning Center in Skokie, this new home is a place for fun, for learning, for imagination and play, for bonding with adults and others their own age.

For the father and daughter who run the place, Creative Paths Learning Center is still a dream. Sometimes, Executive Director Amber Grafman has to remember that it's a dream come true.

"This is our third week, and I still can't believe we did this," she said. "I wake up, and I have to remember that it's here. We've been working toward this for a long time."

The new center, which accommodates children from infancy through kindergarten, occupies space near a visible corner on the 5100 block of Dempster Street. Located on the west end of Skokie — close to the Edens Expressway and Morton Grove — it should be able to draw from various communities as word of mouth spreads.

Creative Paths Learning Center is spacious, a warm and friendly venue divided into rooms based on age. There is personal and hands-on attention by a dedicated staff, and the bond that is forged between them and children under their care is palpable.

Among the many other activities, a pre-Thanksgiving project has the children raring to go. Amber and her team paint children's hands — that in itself is loads of fun — before the children push their palms down on paper, leaving a colorful shape that will serve as the body of a turkey. (The hand-painted turkey is part of a card to be delivered to the children's parents.)

"Does that feel tickly?" Amber asks one of the children, her arms wrapped around him as she applies brown paint to his suddenly colorful hand. She doesn't really get an answer, but by the smile lighting up his face, it can't be too bad.

Amber's teaching career began in Calumet City, not with young children as one might expect, but as a middle school science teacher. She later taught in Grayslake.

"Teaching middle school, just like teaching early childhood, requires a special person," she said. "I went from teaching seventh grade to teaching 3-year-olds, and it was the best decision I ever made."

The transformation was all the more surprising since Amber never believed she could teach children younger than third grade. She hung onto that belief from her student teaching through her full-time teaching and until she did some volunteer work at children's centers near her home. Then she had an epiphany.

"I figured, 'Wait a minute. It's backwards. I'd rather be with this age group rather than the one I'm working with,'" she recalled.

Family project

From the start, Creative Paths Learning Center was a project that sprang from a close-knit family.

Amber grew up in Skokie, and Creative Paths was to be the realization of a dream shared by both her and her parents. Sadly, Amber's mother, Esther Benveniste, did not live long enough to see the center open its doors this fall.

Esther was an artist and a jewelry designer, a business owner, and a teacher of toddlers and 2-year-olds at the same center in Arlington Heights where Amber eventually worked.

Amber left there to have her first child and later became an assistant director and director at another children's center, her mother still working in Arlington Heights.

"The idea (of Creative Paths) was collaborative between me and my mom," Amber said. "My mom and I started talking, and at first it was just joking. It was like, 'Wouldn't it be great if we opened our own center?'"

They talked about mother and daughter working together again, Amber's kids and Esther's grandkids coming to the center, a family business springing to life.

"My mom and I — I think we called each other five times a day," Amber said. "We were extremely close."

Esther was instrumental in all aspects of building Creative Paths Learning Center, and there isn't a day that goes by when Amber and her father, Barry Benveniste, a director at the school, forget that, they say.

Esther helped her daughter purchase and collect almost all of the materials and decorum for Creative Paths; she had a say in the architecture and even the colors of the walls.

"The idea of the school and what we wanted it to be and the philosophy — that's her," Amber said.

Until the very end and even as she was ill, Esther fought to remain a part of this family dream.

"When I work 12 hour days and then I go home and have to do more, I don't care," Amber said. "I like it, and I know that it would have been easier with her here in probably every aspect of my life. But she will live on through here."

Dad contributes

Following the messy turkey art project, Barry takes each child to the sink and holds their hands under flowing water, the paint dissipating down the drain so the children are clean again.

Although his job is mostly on the administrative side, Barry is at Creative Paths all the time, interacting with kids, helping his daughter and her staff.

Dad became as much a part of this project as mother and daughter. A Skokie real estate broker for 40 years with a degree in psychology, Barry previously worked with special education children. He was looking to retire, and Creative Paths was a perfect solution.

"I knew I wanted to be part of this — maybe not as much on the teaching level but more on the administrative level," he said.

It was Barry who found the space for the center at 5129 Dempster St., which had sat vacant for several years and was a previous home to a sports card shop.

Creative Paths Learning Center opened with under a dozen children enrolled and five full-time staff members. The enrollment, though, continues to grow.

"To be in on the ground floor of something this huge and with this kind of quality, I wanted to be part of it," said part-time teacher Donna Burt. Burt is a retired teacher from Lake Forest with a master's degree in early childhood.

"I've seen a lot of schools and I know what's quality," she said. "I've known (the owners) for a long time, and they're wonderful people to work for. When I heard this was a project they were working on years ago, I kept telling them not to forget me."

Immediately noticeable is teacher Eden Lee's special rapport with the small children who snuggle close to her during reading time. Desmond, 2, of Morton Grove, sits on her lap, and they turn pages together, discussing the illustrations that they see.

The kids of Creative Paths Learning Center come from all over the area — Palatine and Skokie, Morton Grove and Evanston and Lincolnwood. Everything that goes on here feels fun and playful, but also a potentially "teachable moment."

"We use the philosophy that everybody learns in their own way and at their own pace," Amber said. "Creativity in whatever facet in which they're creative will aid them in reaching their highest potential. I feel that they're never too young to have a curriculum."

The curriculum and philosophy of Creative Paths can be found on the school's website at www.creativepathslearningcenter.com

"You look at children playing," added Barry, "but it's not only playing. That's how they learn. We can set up the environment for them to have what they need and then they follow their own direction. A lot of times the best thing is to sit back and let them explore and let them create."

Creativity in a safe place is a philosophy that sits behind this family-run school, a philosophy shared by mother and father and daughter at the very conception of Creative Paths Learning Center.

Amber and Barry continue to pour their time, and even more importantly their heart, into this new preschool, keeping alive the spirit they shared with Esther.

"Every second that I'm here, every toy that I see, I remember where we got it," said Amber, emotionally bringing back her beloved mother. "Every theme that I think of, I think of what she would plan for it. When I plan, I think of what creative juices she would come up with. I think of her every second."

The legacy Esther Benveniste leaves behind is not only carried on by her daughter and husband or even by the warm and welcoming children's preschool that the family has developed.

It carries on through the young children who will be entering the doors of Creative Paths Learning Center for years to come — playing, learning, trusting and smiling during the most formative years of their lives.

General Government/IT Committee propose creating Special Initiatives Fund

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Special for Pioneer Press | @istudenkov

The Niles General Government & Information Technology Committee voted to support the creation of a fund that would make it easier for the village to cover unexpected expenses.

The Special Initiatives Fund would be used to cover emergency repairs, as well as events and programs that the village government didn't budget for. It would be used if the village couldn't reallocate funds from elsewhere in the budget. The vote represents the first step in the process to get the fund up and running. Ultimately, it would be up to the Niles Board of Trustees to decide whether to give it a final approval.

The committee met of Jan. 19, nine months after its last meeting. During this meeting, committee chair and village trustee George Alpogianis proposed creating a fund that would be used to cover unexpected village expenses. That would include unexpected repairs of village buildings, property and equipment. Under the current arrangement, the village departments have to go before the board to get money for expenses that weren't in the budget.

Village manager and committee member Steve Vinezeano voiced his support for the plan. He used a recent case where a toaster and dishwasher in one of the village government buildings broke and the village didn't have the money budgeted to replace them as an example.

The fund would also be used to cover events and programs the village didn't plan for when the budget for that particular fiscal year was finalized. Vinezeano gave the Holly Jolly Market and the village's SCRAM anti-scam program for seniors as examples.

"When they came up with an idea for SCRAM, it wasn't budgeted for," he said. "It was a special initiative that was very good."

Vinezeano explained that if the fund is created, the village wouldn't dip into it for every little expense. Under the current arrangement, when departments face unexpected expenses, they try to see if there's extra money in their budgets first, and only go to the board if they can't find any, or if there isn't enough money. That would still be the case if the fund is created.

Alpogianis emphasized that the fund wouldn't be a stash the village could use without any accountability.

"This is not a slush fund," he said. "I want to come out and say it up front. Every penny will be accounted for."

Committee member and Niles IT Director Bill Shaw said that, while he believed having to ask the Village Board for extra funds created a system of checks and balances, he saw merits in having some flexibility

"We need to think of a budget as a living, breathing entity that can evolve," he said.

The committee members considered how much money the fund would have. Alpogianis suggested using the costs of Holly Jolly Market and SCRAM as benchmarks. The two initiates cost around $20,000 and $10,000, respectively. Based on that, he suggested having $20,000 for the first year and then adjust the amount based on how the fund actually gets spent.

The committee approved the fund unanimously.

Alpogianis and Vinezeano also reported on the status of the Arts and Culture Advisory Council, which the village board created during its Dec. 9 meeting. As previously reported by the Niles Herald-Spectator, the council will have five members appointed by the mayor and six members appointed by various Niles cultural, civic and commercial organizations. Vinezeano told the committee that the village was putting together letters to invite the organizations to make their appointments. Alpogianis mentioned that two potential resident members 7 both local artists 7 are currently being considered.

Former trustee Louella Preston repeated the concern she raised during the Dec. 9 meeting.

"There is no provision that [the Art and Culture Advisory Council members] have to be Niles residents," she said.

Vinezeano said that while the requirement wasn't in the resolution that created the council, it was something the village is keeping in mind as it considered resident candidates.

"There was every effort made to ensure that [candidates] reside in Niles, work in Niles or a have a business in Niles," he said.

As the discussion continued, Vinezeano suggested that, once the council is established, it would need direction.

"I recommend that we have an Arts and Culture Plan developed," he said. "It would give them focus, kind of like the Environmental Practices Committee got with the [Niles Environmental Action Plan]."

Shaw agreed, but he added that it should align with the Niles' existing major plan.

"I think, whatever we do, we should make sure that the Art and Culture Plan aligns with the 2030 plan." he said.

Alpogianas said that the committee will continue discussing the art council during the next meeting, which will take place some time in February. After the meeting, he said that he wants to try to get the council up and running soon.

"We want to try to get something going by March," Alpogianas said.

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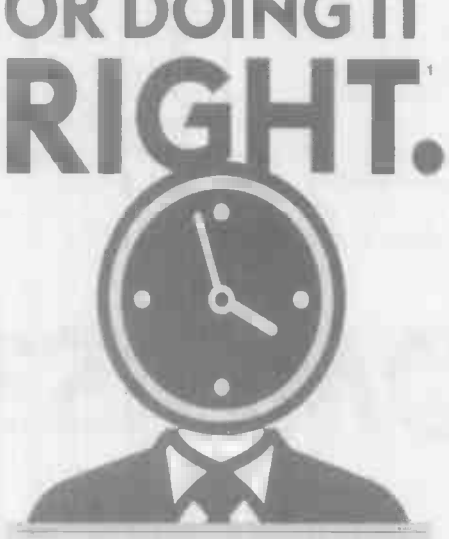

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AND IF THEY'RE
NOT THE
RIGHT
PEOPLE,
THAT OTHER
30%
WON'T MATTER MUCH.

Pioneer Press
MONSTER

1. U.S. Labor Department Data, 2014; 2. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2014; 3. Source: Society for Human Resource Management, 2008

Resident wins $1 million in Niles

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Special for Pioneer Press | @istudenkov

The Illinois Lottery has announced the name of the person who bought the winning $1 million ticket at the Niles gas station.

According to the lottery press release, Jenny Zajac, of Glenview, bought the winning ticket two days before New Year's Day. As previously reported by this newspaper, it was one of the three $1 million tickets that were part of the lottery's New Year's Millionaire Raffle. Zajac bought her ticket at the Marathon gas station located at 7145 W Dempster Street. Two other winning tickets were bought at Glen Ellyn and Troy, Illinois.

Zajac is a 23-year-old graphic designer. When she and her family were out having dinner on New Year's Eve, she resolved to win a $1 million ticket. The next day, she checked the Illinois Lottery website and discovered that her wish came true.

She immediately showed the ticket to her dad, and then to her fiancé.

"I started screaming and then I couldn't stop shaking!" Zajac said. "None of us could believe it was true."

She plans to use the winnings to buy a house, invest and pay off her debts.

"I will also pay off my student loans, and that is going to feel great," said Zajac.

The Marathon gas station will also stand to benefit, it will get $10,000 — or one percent of the value of the winning ticket — as a bonus for selling it.

Explore Apps at D64's Parent University

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 invites parents and adult members of the community to explore Google Apps for Education at a Parent University evening on Monday, Jan. 26 from 6-7:30 p.m. at Jefferson School, 8200 Greendale, Niles, according to a district release.

Google Apps for Education have become an integral part of District 64's Learning Ecosystem over the last few years, as students have been given the opportunity to use this powerful productivity tool in their learning environments.

The session is designed to give parents an overview of the different Google Apps that are being utilized in classrooms across District 64 and the world. Participants will see various student examples and gain a deeper understanding of what learning is like in the 21st century classroom. They will also receive a primer on the full suite of apps: Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms, and many more useful tools for teaching and learning.

This program is presented by District 64 Instructional Technology Coaches Carrie Bellen (Franklin School) and Amanda Pelsor (Carpenter School).

It is free and open to all adult members of the community, and is timed so that you may stay to attend the Board of Education meeting that follows.

D-64 creates Strategic Planning Steering Committee

With the conclusion of its current five-year strategic plan, Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 is beginning work on a plan that will serve as a new roadmap to District 64's vision for 2020, according to a recent release from the school.

"District 64 is committed to using a community-driven strategic planning process, which will be guided by a Strategic Planning Steering Committee," Superintendent Laurie Heinz said in the release. "We are asking community members, along with parents and staff members to consider volunteering your name for consideration to be appointed to this important planning group."

"The committee's main purpose will be to identify the most important challenges District 64 will need to address in the next five years, and how the District might go about planning for those challenges," Heinz said in the release.

The committee will be guided by a highly experienced, outside facilitator, the release said.

"District 64 is seeking a wide range of community stakeholders to serve on the planning committee," Heinz said in the release.

If selected to serve, committee members must be available to attend all four meetings and will also have some homework: Saturday, Feb. 7 from 8:30 a.m. to noon; Thursday, March 26 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Thursday, April 16 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.; and Thursday, May 21 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

"The administrative team will work with me to assemble a diverse committee of about 30-35 members from the names of willing volunteers from our schools and community," Heinz said in the release. "We will have the difficult job of balancing the membership of the group to ensure a wide representation of stakeholders."

Although all who volunteer will not be selected to participate on the planning committee, "all stakeholders will have several opportunities to contribute their ideas and vision through completing a survey or participating in a focus group in coming weeks," Heinz added.

If you would like to be considered to serve on the committee, email Superintendent Dr. Laurie Heinz as soon as possible at lheinz@d64.org.

Opinion

Letters

Union Station plan deserves support

Serving both Metra and Amtrak riders, Chicago's Union Station serves an eye-popping 15 million passengers every year — more than Midway Airport.

So improving passengers' comfort is a major focus of the Union Station master plan. From adequate restrooms to clearer signage and Wi-Fi, these station amenities are considered standard at major transportation centers worldwide.

The master plan also highlights Union Station's potential to be much more than a place where people catch a train. It can be transformed into a vibrant destination, a neighborhood and city asset and a catalyst for economic growth.

Chicago's downtown is booming. The number of private-sector jobs in the Loop is the highest since 1991, at nearly 542,000, and the number of people living downtown has increased by 36 percent over the past 10 years.

Both to better serve passengers in the short term and to realize a long-term goal of dynamic growth, the Metropolitan Planning Council supports full implementation of the master plan — from expanding the station's track and platform capacity to creating a vibrant destination for visitors, workers and commuters alike.

MarySue Barrett
president
Metropolitan Planning Council

Time to reflect on the demands of Martin Luther King

BY RANDY BLASER

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is passing from a man of history into myth.

Suburban schoolchildren know about King, that there is a certain greatness about him, but just what it is that makes King great is becoming more and more a blank slate to be filled in by whatever agenda we wish to promote.

We all have knowledge of the great speeches, the historic marches and of King's assassination. But what do we know of the times that made the speeches and marches so riveting and historic, and made King's death so tragic for us all?

For Martin Luther King did not control the events of the great Civil Rights Movement, nor was he controlled by them. He was a part of them, and how he reacted to events that shaped all our lives at that time and what he did about it is what made him great.

King's greatness needs to be understood in the context of how we lived as a nation at mid-century, quite separate and unequal, compared to how we live now, hardly perfect but unthinkable for anyone who lived through those times.

"Every so often, a true patriot comes along who demands that America live up to that ideal [that all men are created equal]. King was our patriot who made that demand. We owe it to him to live up to our creed."

King had a plan for his life that did not include being a Civil Rights leader or a martyr. He wanted to teach, to be a professor, after spending some time as a pastor and gaining some real life experience.

Unfortunately for his plan, but very fortunately for the rest of us, he picked the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Ala., for that first job. Shortly after his arrival in Montgomery, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a municipal bus.

She did not attend King's church, but one of the first organizing meetings of the famed bus boycott was held there. Other black ministers in Montgomery chose King to lead the movement more because of his relative newness to Montgomery's white power structure than anything else. No one knew then that it would become what history calls The Montgomery Bus Boycott.

The wheels were put in motion, and King, more Christian than Civil Rights leader at this time, went where his faith led him, acted the way his faith required, and spoke out against injustice where he saw it.

More than anyone of his time, King changed America. There were other leaders, certainly. The list of Americans who fought for justice and Civil Rights is a long one indeed, and includes blacks and whites.

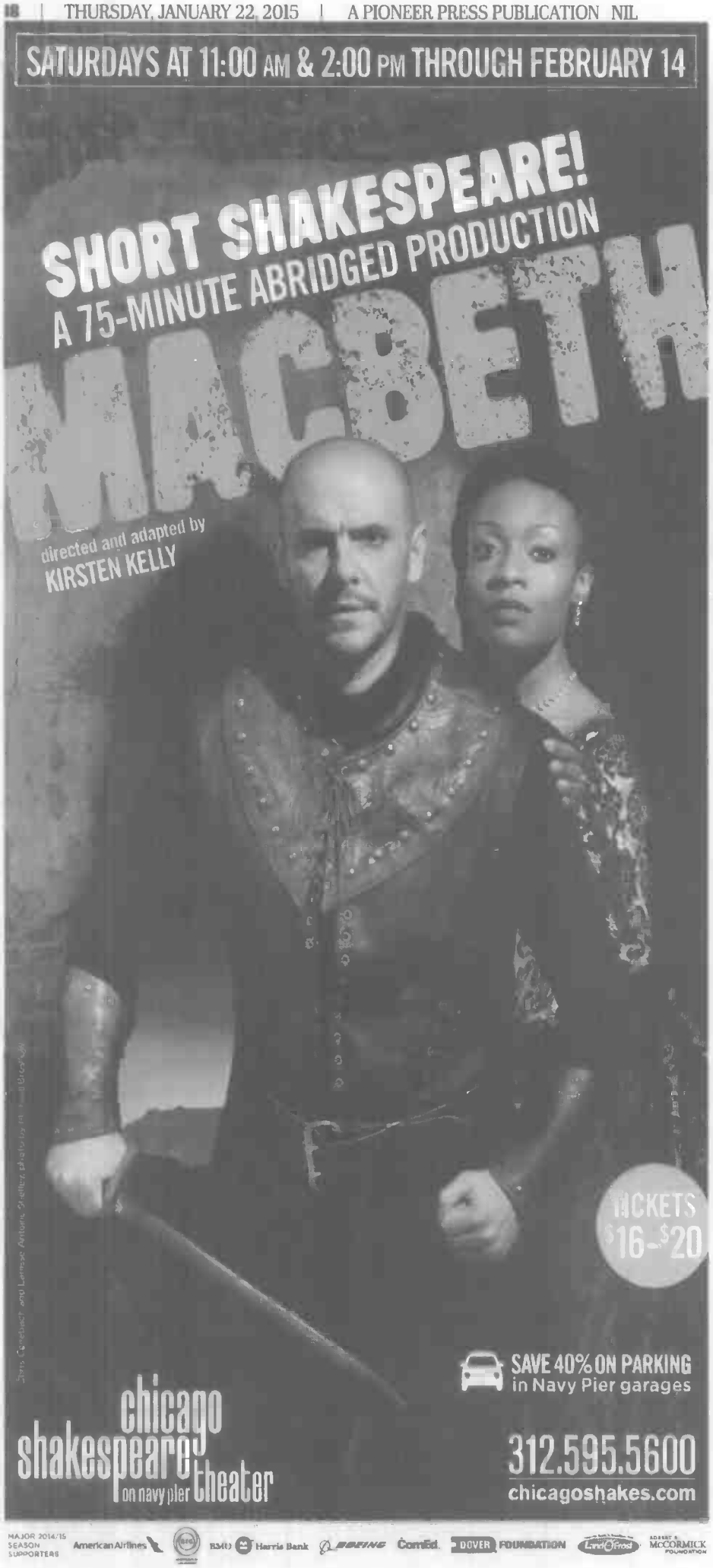
But King stood head and shoulders above them all. He wasn't born rich. He was never elected to any office. He was a gifted preacher who used the pulpit he had to tell the most simple of truths: What America claimed to be was not the America lived by African Americans.

Perhaps King's greatness can be seen this way: Throughout this nation's history, Americans have claimed it to be a great nation based on the high ideal that all men are created equal. Every so often, a true patriot comes along who demands that America live up to that ideal.

King was our patriot who made that demand. We owe it to him to live up to our creed.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Send your letters to the editor to News Editor Richard Ray at rray@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.



1,000 WORDS BY JACK HIGGINS

What do concealed-carry permits tell us?

91,651.

That's how many concealed-carry gun permits were issued in Illinois last year.

The Illinois State Police started issuing permits a year ago. You may remember that Illinois was the last state in the union to pass a law allowing its residents to carry concealed handguns.

After much legal wrangling, the law went into effect Jan. 1, 2014.

And, so far, 91,651 Illinoisans have been granted a permit to go loaded. What does that number tell us, if anything?

There are — at least — 91,651 angry or scared people in Illinois? Or, maybe 91,651 is simply a number.

But numbers often signify more than just a bunch of things.

How can we (can we?) use the information the number of concealed-carry permits gives us? For instance, of the 91,651 permits issued, 24,000 — approximately one-quarter — were issued to Cook County residents.

Does that tell us anything?

One thing that 24,000 number tells us is that we Cook County residents can kick the butts of the residents of any other county in Illinois.

Lake County with its piddling 4,252 gun permits wouldn't stand a chance against us Cook Countyers (Cookers?).

Even if Lake County formed an alliance with DuPage County, the combined firepower of those two counties would be less than half of we Cookers.

Not that we Cookers are a violent or aggressive people. We would not attack neighboring counties, even if they provoked us by — oh, say — selling gasoline cheaper than we do in Cook County.

There would be no need for violence. Diplomacy would settle the situation satisfactorily. If those other counties with fewer gun permits were reminded of that fact, they would no doubt see the light.

And that, perhaps, is the real significance of the number of concealed-carry permits issued in Illinois. It can be used to set a priority list for state services and resources.

How can Illinois legislators determine how to allocate finite state resources? How about by the number of gun permits issued in each county? Cook with 24,000 permits gets more. Will County with 6,134 gets less. Proportionately.

We Cookers are not hogs. We only want what is due us.

We Cookers would tread lightly, as befitting the calm, quiet strength of true Americans. There would be no need for us to parade our strength.

The numbers speak for themselves.

Just count the permits.

What to do if you hear, 'I want a divorce'

LOVE ESSENTIALLY
BY
JACKIE PILOSSOPH

LOVE essentially

There's something just as cold as the Polar Vortex that comes with January: divorce filings.

I'm pretty sure that's the reason January is National Divorce Month. It's the month that statistically, most people file for divorce.

"People don't want to get divorced right when school starts, and then it gets close to Thanksgiving, and they don't want the holidays to be remembered as the time they got divorced, so we have a huge number of people who come to see us after the first, when they feel it's a better time for themselves and for their kids," said Karen Pinkert-Lieb, a senior partner at Schiller DuCanto & Fleck, who has been practicing family law at the firm for more than two decades.

I sat down with Pinkert-Lieb to ask for advice on what you should do if you recently heard the words, "I want a divorce," and have been handed divorce papers. It's a moment that can cause devastation, confusion, fury, fear, and shock to the point where you're standing there with your mouth open thinking, "What the heck just happened?"

Pinkert-Lieb recommended that the first thing to do is to find an attorney, and then offered four tips for the best search methods:

1. Publications that rate attorneys: She recommended three websites, all that rate attorneys based purely on legal ability and ethical standards: Martindale-Hubbell, Best Lawyers and Leading Lawyers.

2. Word of mouth: Ask friends or professionals, such as accountants, other attorneys or therapists for recommendations. Also, it's helpful to get direct references. In other words, talk to the clients to hear their experience with the attorney.

3. Learn as much as you can: Google the attorneys you are considering to read their bios and find out if they are a good fit for you. Are they litigation-focused or do they lean more towards mediation for clients? Who is their clientele? Do they handle high net-worth clients? What is their niche?

4. Meet with the attorney: "This is a relationship that is intimate," said Pinkert-Lieb. "You will be spending a lot of time with this person and you have to feel a certain chemistry, and feel like you can trust and have confidence in that person."

After obtaining an attorney, Pinkert-Lieb explained that it is important for that person to educate you about the judge who gets assigned to your case. Why? Because you get to decide if you want to stay with that judge or request a change of judge.

Also important: Your attorney needs to educate you on the terms that will be used during the divorce process. Do you know what joint custody really means? Are you familiar with words like, "discovery," "marital property," "petition," "order," or "dissolution?" I sure wasn't!

"The client should be educated and empowered because they are the ones who will ultimately make the decisions," Pinkert-Lieb said.

Perhaps the most surprising thing I learned from my conversation with Pinkert-Lieb was that in her initial meeting with a client, she addresses the option of reconciling versus divorce. In other words, she attempts to save the marriage!

When I asked her how many of her clients during her 22-year career have decided to get back together versus get divorced, her answer was, "Dozens!"

While Pinkert-Lieb can offer legal advice for those who are newly separated, I would like to add some tips of my own. I feel I have the credibility to do so, not just because I'm a relationship columnist, but because I once stood in those shoes. So, here are my five tips:

1. Breathe. Try to stay calm.

2. Seek help and support through professionals, such as a physician and/or therapist and friends.

3. Put your children first at all times, no matter how angry you might get at your spouse.

4. Don't do anything stupid! Like drink excessively or become addicted to alcohol or drugs, drink and drive, or send texts or emails to your ex that could be damaging in court.

5. Realize that you are going to not only survive, but thrive. It's hard to imagine, but have faith because it's true.

Do you feel **IGNORED**, **RIPPED OFF** or taken advantage of?

Have you been **BURNED** by poor customer service?

Caught in red tape and **LOST** in a phone tree?

THE HELPSQUAD IS STANDING BY.

This weekly column is geared up to provide consumer tips and stories that help readers solve issues with businesses.

To submit a complaint for consideration, email HelpSquad@PioneerLocal.com with as much detail about your complaint as possible.

Niles mayor named Polish group's person of the year

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Special for Pioneer Press | @istudenkov

Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo was one of the two people chosen as the Chicago Society of the National Polish Alliance's Persons of the Year.

The Polish American Alliance is a Chicago-based fraternal society that was founded in 1880 to provide insurance for Polish-Americans. The Chicago Society was founded in 1912 by NPA members as an organization for Polish-American professionals, businessmen and civic leaders. The Chicago Society's purpose is two-fold — to help its members succeed and to lend its resources to worthy causes. The organization currently provides grants for cultural institutions, events and artistic projects. Most of the grantees have some sort of connection to the Polish-American community. It also offers scholarships for students of Polish descent.

The Persons of the Year awards were created to recognize the society's members that embody the organization's values. The awards are presented at the organization's annual inaugural ball. It will be held on Jan 31 at The Elmcrest Banquets hall, which is located in Elmwood Park, at 7370 W Grand Ave, The event will start at 6:30 p.m., with the dinner starting at 7:30 p.m.

According to Ball Chairman Ro Matuszczak, there were several reasons why Przybylo was chosen. It was a way to recognize his success in politics, his success as a businessman and his worth on behalf of the Village of Niles.

"He always felt that he should do good for the village," said Matuszczak. " I know that his thoughts were genuine ₇ and it wasn't some political posturing. He's done a lot for the Sister City program, and in general, hes's done a lot for community. So we decided he would be one of those deserving of this honor."

Przybylo said he was humbled and honored to receive the award.

"The Chicago Society of the Polish National Alliance is a leader in the Polish community and I am beyond flattered to be honored as a Person of the Year by this organization," he said.

Ultimately, Przybylo said, it wasn't about him ₇ it was about the Chicago Society. If nothing else, he hoped that him getting the award might get more people to attend the ball.

"It's more of a celebration of the Chicago Society," he said. "I hope a lot of people will come and celebrate the Chicago Society and all the good it does."

In this file photo, George Alpogianis, left, Andrew Przybylo, Danette O'Donovan Matyas read the polling results brought in by Richard Fahy at their campaign headquarters. April, 9, 2013. | KEVIN TANAKA/FOR SUN-TIMES MEDIA

Blockbuster or flop?
The Movie Review
section has the scoop.

Get up and
go

Your guide to
the weekend
and beyond

Every Thursday

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Real Estate data provided by Record Information Services, Inc. www.public-record.com Inquires may be sent to info@public-record.com or call 630-557-1000.

MORTON GROVE

5935 Lincoln Ave 302, Morton Grove 60053: Goldie Leon Estate sold the property to Jennifer M Van Ornum for $155,000 on December 31

7324 Suffield St, Morton Grove 60053-1957: Earl I Tobar sold the property to Eliana Giarmidis & Anastasia Giarmidis for $200,000 on December 29

PARK RIDGE

1333 S Western Ave, Park Ridge 60068-5059: Thomas H Lewis sold the property to Sean M Story & Colleen Story for $480,000 on January 2

1831 Habberton Ave, Park Ridge 60068-1731: Richard Olson sold the property to Emilio Dibenedetto Jr & Lindsey J Whyte for $502,500 on December 30

217 N Knight Ave, Park Ridge 60068-3109: Eli M Galayda sold the property to John Crassweller for $375,000 on January 2

470 S Northwest Hwy Ib, Park Ridge 60068-4965: Hickey Trust sold the property to Michael T Curran for $170,000 on December 30

600 Thames Pkwy Unit Id, Park Ridge 60068: Caparelli Trust sold the property to John C Arbo for $140,000 on January 2

718 S Prospect Ave, Park Ridge 60068: Micah P Minium sold the property to Jennifer Heppel for $477,500 on December 31

NILES

7120 N Milwaukee Ave 304, Niles 60714-4491: Ludwika Rybczyk Estate sold the property to Francis Walsh for $205,000 on January 5

7161 W Carol Ct, Niles 60714-2125: Shahzad Arif Dayala sold the property to Mohammed Jobal & Shaheen Iobal for $160,000 on December 29

8156 N Overhill Ave, Niles 60714: Jose Guzman sold the property to Shkelzen Terbaci for $337,000 on December 31

9202 N Ashland Ave, Niles 60714: Schrack Trust sold the property to Georgekutty Scariah & Shiney Scariah for $450,000 on December 31

SKOKIE

3355 Capitol St, Skokie 60076-2401: Us Bank Na Trustee sold the property to J Carmen Rojas & Ana L Rojas for $250,000 on January 2

3831 Sugar Loaf Ln, Skokie 60076-1921: Michael Bambouyani sold the property to Maurice Aaron for $500,000 on January 5

3845 Enfield Ave, Skokie 60076-2219: Elwood Kreger sold the property to Enisa Jakupovic for $270,000 on December 30

4239 Golf Rd, Skokie 60076: Annie Moy sold the property to Ashfaq Syed for $253,500 on December 31

4341 Howard St, Skokie 60076: Neil Harris sold the property to Joseph Daniel for $227,500 on December 31

4714 Main St, Skokie 60076: 12867 Wakefield Drive Llc sold the property to Aliza Nano for $152,000 on December 31

4830 Wright Ter, Skokie 60077-2387: Karen Melcher sold the property to Richard S Kang & Meyke A Kang for $250,000 on January 2

5007 Lunt Ave, Skokie 60077: Laam Property Solutions Llc sold the property to Shane Chapman & Melissa Chapman for $485,000 on December 31

7450 Lincoln Ave 209, Skokie 60076-3889: Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp sold the property to Rina Hodzic for $190,000 on December 29

8158 Floral Ave, Skokie 60077: Floral Avenue Llc sold the property to Gregory J Kruper for $95,500 on December 31

8214 Monticello Ave, Skokie 60076-3328: Mirela Citu sold the property to Eric L Katnelson for $265,000 on January 2

8224 Monticello Ave, Skokie 60076-3328: Scott Trust sold the property to Anwar Michael & Joan Michael for $202,500 on January 5

8313 Christiana Ave 2w, Skokie 60076-2936: Linda Yousif sold the property to Lukasz J Sewera for $128,000 on January 2

9045 Bronx Ave 2b, Skokie 60077-1713: Marigo Kardaris sold the property to Marlene A Somo for $80,000 on December 29

9350 Skokie Blvd 50, Skokie 60077-1385: Fannie Mae sold the property to Irina Kechker for $290,000 on December 30

HARWOOD HEIGHTS

4811 N Olcott Ave 510, Harwood Heights 60706-3453: Tony Marchese sold the property to Gilda Morelli for $215,000 on January 5

4833 N Olcott Ave 409, Harwood Heights 60706: Steve Ptasinski sold the property to Ann Marlow for $248,500 on December 31

SCHILLER PARK

3768 Hawthorne St, Schiller Park 60176-2413: Pioneer Realty Llc sold the property to Desiree N Watson for $180,000 on January 5

9240 Seymour Ave, Schiller Park 60176-2341: Maymie L Ho sold the property to Ana Petkova for $427,500 on December 29

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NILES

MONDAY, JAN. 26

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.

HAPPENING NEARBY

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

Science Night
6 p.m.: Turn one's family into scientists and explore fun science concepts! Make cool scientific discoveries through experiments, projects, and play. Different activities each class. Register online at www.prparks.org. Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-3570. Free.

Women, Wine and Wellness
6:30 p.m.: Wildwood Nature Center hosts at Whole Foods Market to discover the health benefits (and delicious tastes) of select wines paired with healthy treats such as dark chocolate, rustic whole grain breads, and a variety from the store's extensive olive bar. (Ages 21 & Up) Register online at www.prparks.org. Whole Foods Market, 225 W. Touhy Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-3570. $15.

Niles Township Toastmasters
7 p.m.: Toastmasters in an international club that encourages its members to improve their public speaking and leadership skills. The club meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. New members and visitors are welcome. For details, visit nilestownship.toastmastersclubs.org. Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove. Call 847-677-1881.

ID Theft: Don't Be a Victim
7 p.m.: What is identity theft? Who are the victims? Heidi Berardi, Director of Education and Community Outreach at First American Bank in Glenview shows how one and one's family can avoid becoming victims and what to do if identity theft happens. Register at glenviewpl.org/register, 847-729-7500 Ext. 7700, or the Reference Services Desk. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview.

Bright Body Tuning ~ Brighten your Resolve
7 p.m.: Bring your most important New Year's resolution and vitalize your energy intelligence centers for keeping it. Experience greater intelligence, motivation, and joy for staying on track. Take home your own custom energy synchronizing tool. Led by Peter Kime, creator of Raydiant Pathways. Save $5 when you pre-register. Register at website. Raydiant Day Center for Raydiant Life Fitness, 1400 Greenleaf Street, Evanston. Call 847-869-6477. $28.

Park Ridge Toastmasters Guest Night
7:30 p.m.: Giving a speech? Frozen with fear? Join the Toastmasters for Guest Night and see how they can help you speak effectively. Enjoy snacks and a great program. First United Methodist Church, 418 W. Touhy Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-987-1875.

FRIDAY, JAN. 23

Smart Tax Strategies for Your Small Business
8:30 a.m.: Women in Business Networking Breakfast — $10 Members/$15 Other. Find out what you need to know from Jacqueline C. Fonorow, Senior Tax Advisor at H&R Block's Wilmette Premium Office. An expert in tax prep for businesses including Schedule C, LLC, partnerships and corporations, Fonorow is a DePaul University graduate with certifications in small business/sole proprietors, investment income, the Affordable Care Act (ACA), military and retirement issues in taxation. Bring your questions. Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce, 720 Garden St., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-3121.

Share the Warmth
9 a.m.: Volunteers wanted. Join a group of warm, friendly, supportive women (men welcome) to prepare one-of-a-kind fleece blankets for chemo patients. We add a crochet edge to fleece and send these free blankets to new adult chemotherapy patients. We can teach you a basic crochet stitch if needed. Bring lunch. We often gather until 2 or 3 p.m. Donations are welcome to this 501(c)3 non-profit organization. North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield. Call 847-784-6030.

Duplicate Bridge
9 a.m.: The senior center offers a friendly bridge game every Friday morning. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-5127.

Introduction to MyMediaMall Downloading eBooks and eAudiobooks
10 a.m.: Discover the Library's collection of free, downloadable eBooks and eAudiobooks. Learn how to access MyMediaMall, browse the Library's collection of digital materials, and checkout/download eBooks and eAudiobooks to one's computer, eReader, tablet or mobile device. Instruction followed by Q & A's. Register at glenviewpl.org/register, 847-729-7500 Ext. 7600, or the Reader Services Desk. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview.

Handicrafters
10 a.m.: Held every Friday at 10 a.m. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-5127.

Gamers
1 p.m.: The group meets every Friday. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-5127.

Teen DIY Workshop: Duct Tape Wallets
4 p.m.: For Grades 6-12. Registration required. Join the library for a monthly DIY (do it yourself) workshop for teens. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-677-5277 Ext. 232.

District 212's Lil' Leydenettes Clinic
4 p.m.: District 212's Leydenette Dance Team is hosting the Lil' Leydenettes Clinic for children in 2nd through 8th grades. The clinic will be held in the dance studio at East Leyden High School. Following the clinic, participants will perform at halftime during the boy's varsity basketball home game against Willowbrook beginning at 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested in auditioning for the District 212's Leydenettes Dance Team in high school is encouraged to participate in this event so as to interact with current team members and to practice dance and performance skills. The cost includes a T-shirt and pizza. For more information and to register, contact Marisa Kapinos by phone or at mkapinos@leyden212.org. East Leyden High School, 3400 Rose St., Franklin Park. Call 847-451-3054. $20 in advance, $25 at door.

Roosevelt Elementary Science Fair
5:45 p.m.: Up and Atom! The Roosevelt Science Fair is a family-friendly event that provides an opportunity for students to ask questions and explore their world. The event begins with Mr. Freeze in the auditorium followed by student exhibits at 6:30 p.m. Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School, 1001 S. Fairview, Park Ridge. Call 847-318-4235.

Frozen Sing-Along Edition: The Interactive Family Movie Experience
6:45 p.m.: Come in costume because you are part of the movie. The library will provide props, snacks, and fun...you bring a blanket and enthusiasm. Special treats provided by Whole Foods Market Northbrook. Registration is required and preference is given to Glenview Library cardholders. Register at glenviewpl.org/register, 847-729-7500 x 7900, or the Youth Services Desk. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-7500.

Cappuccino & Conversation @ Glenview Grind
7 p.m.: Share favorite reads at this special book discussion. Enjoy a free specialty drink of choice, compliments of the Glenview Library and the Glenview Grind. For teens ages 13-18 only. Just drop in until 8 p.m. The Glenview Grind, 989 Waukegan Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-7500.

SATURDAY, JAN. 24

Indoor Winter Farmers' Market
9 a.m.: St. Luke's Lutheran Church, hosts an Indoor Farmers' Market sponsored by Faith in Place. Enjoy a wide variety of sustainably produced goods from local farmers and vendors such as cheeses, meats, eggs, soaps, syrup, honey, baked goods, mushrooms, granolas, wool, dried fruits, dog treats, sauces and salsas, jellies and jams, and other specialty items. Fair Trade coffee and chocolate is also available. St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-825-6659.

Shabbat Children's Program
9 a.m.: Children in Shabbat Kids Club can enjoy a program that includes davening, interactive games, a healthy snack and stories. Lubavitch Chabad of Skokie, 4059 Dempster St., Skokie. Call 847-677-1770.

Camp Shabbat
9:30 a.m.: Join Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah, for Camp Shabbat....a special service led in part by teens that celebrates Jewish campers and camping. Everyone attending is invited to come wearing their camp t-shirts. Following services is a camp-themed Kiddush and singing. Information on local day and overnight programs available. Beth Hillel Congregation, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette. Call 847-256-1213.

Skokie Art Guild
9:30 a.m.: The group offers figure drawing workshops every Saturday. There are live models but no instructor. Devonshire Cultural Center, 4400 Greenwood St., Skokie. Call 847-673-4450. $20 per session; $12 for guild members.

Family Play Day: Winter Fun
1 p.m.: Drop in for a free afternoon of nature-based play at Emily Oaks. With special winter tools and play cards, all attendees are sure to stay warm and busy while enjoying the brilliant colors and wonders of the frozen world. This event helps families interact comfortably in the outdoors during the winter season. Come ready to explore! For all ages. Emily Oaks Nature Center, 4650 Brummel St., Skokie. Call 847-677-7001.

SEE **CALENDAR**, NEXT PAGE »

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.

« FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

CALENDAR

Litworks Author Chat
1 p.m.: Chat online with author Jessica Brody, one of the LitWorks Teen Book Fest stars. Jessica's books include My Life Undecided, The Karma Club and Unforgotten. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 7088677828.

Frozen Sing-Along Edition: The Interactive Family Movie Experience
2 p.m.: Come in costume because you are part of the movie. The library will provide props, snacks, and fun...you bring a blanket and enthusiasm. Special treats provided by Whole Foods Market Northbrook. Registration is required and preference is given to Glenview Library cardholders. Register at glenviewpl.org/register, 847-729-7500 x 7900, or the Youth Services Desk. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview. Call 847-729-7500.

Tween Stars Live! A Star Studded School Fundraiser!
3 p.m.: A portion of the proceeds go back to your school. Parents must call to mention one's school to get the credit. Call Celebrity Placement Marketing at 248-855-5684 to purchase tickets. This highly interactive family variety show features 90 minutes of surprise-filled pure family fun for all ages! The jam-packed talent show features a fun, unpredictable, in-audience Q & A session with the stars; totally tween trivia with prizes; improvisation, comedy and tween musical acts, as well as a chance to act out scenes on stage with the stars! VIP autograph and photo session -- get up close and personal with the tween stars. Also, taking place at Sunday, January 25, 2015 12:00-1:30pm Star Plaza Theatre 8001 Delaware Pl Merrillville, IN 46410. Event website: www.tweenstarslive.com; Event video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKiZb-hj3sA Patio Theatre, 6008 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. Call 248-855-5684. Seats start at $15.

SUNDAY, JAN. 25

Rummage Sale
9 a.m.: The Sisterhood of Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah hosts its semi-annual Rummage and Book Sale 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 25 and 9-11 a.m. Jan. 26. Featured will be housewares, collectibles, clothing, jewelry, furniture, toys and more! Bargains Galore! Proceeds from the event will enable the Sisterhood to continue its many community wide charitable endeavors. Beth Hillel Congregation, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette. Call 847-256-1213.

The official launch of Focused Ministries, Inc.
10 a.m.: During the service at North Shore Assembly of God, the Founder and Governing Board of Directors for Focused Ministries, Inc., a faith-based, non-profit organization, will share the mission, vision, and plan to provide residential support to teenage girls ages 13-18 through mentoring, vocational training, and social/emotional support. The group is in the beginning stages of development, but Jan. 25 is the day set aside to announce who they are — until 11:30 a.m. North Shore Assembly of God, 9776 Gross Point Rd., Skokie.

Come for a Sunday worship
10 a.m.: For those looking for a faith community, come worship on Sunday mornings. Church school for children (age three through the sixth grade) runs simultaneously with the worship service, and nursery care is provided for infants through age two. First Congregational Church of Wilmette, 1125 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette. Call (847) 251-6660.

The Threat from ISIS: Real or Imagined
10:30 a.m.: Nabeel Khoury, a Senior Fellow for Middle East and National Security at the Chicago Council for Global Affairs, and formerly a Foreign Service Officer for the U.S. State Department. Khoury gives a brief introduction to ISIS, explaining what is new in their ideology. Describes the threats posed by ISIS and the strategic options for the U.S. and other countries in dealing with them. Coffee Hour after the talk. Childcare is available. Ethical Humanist Society, 7574 Lincoln Ave., Skokie. Call 847-677-3334.

In Conversation with...Survivors of Auschwitz
1:30 p.m.: In recognition of the International Day of Holocaust Remembrance and the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the Museum hosts a moderated discussion with Holocaust survivors of Auschwitz featuring Professor Benjamin Frommer, Northwestern University Department of History, as moderator. Reservations required: reservations@ilhmec.org. Illinois Holocaust Museum, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie. Call 847-967-4835.

French Battlefields: The Men of Omaha Beach
2 p.m.: Journey back in time to June 6, 1944 to meet the soldiers responsible for the heroic military endeavor known as D-Day. Historian and author Robert Mueller shares period photos and an in-depth portrayal of this infamous French battlefield, ending the presentation with a visit to the Normandy American Cemetery. This historic site attracts a million tourists each year—a true testament to the ordinary men from ordinary backgrounds who did extraordinary things to help end World War II. Book signing and sale. Register at glenviewpl.org/register, 847-729-7500 Ext. 7600, or the Reader Services Desk. Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview.

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Should you respond to a class action notification?

HELP SQUAD
BY
CATHY CUNNINGHAM

HELP SQUAD

Dear Help Squad,

I have a question I'm hoping you can answer for me. From time to time people will get notices in the mail that they could be a member of a class action lawsuit. Is this the modern day version of the Publisher's Clearing House sweepstakes or are people potentially throwing away money by not following up with it?

Karen
Glenview

This is a great question. By the way, if anyone out there has a similar consumer-focused curiosity, send it to Help Squad and we will do our best to find an expert to answer it for you.

In this case, our expert is Ines Monte, a Chicago-based employment lawyer with The Monte Law Firm, Ltd., who has extensive experience as both a plaintiff's and defendant's class action attorney. Ines's short answer to Karen's question is yes, you may be throwing money away if you don't reply to a class action notification. There is no real downside to responding. The only caveat to this would be if you felt your rights or safety had been violated in a way that would merit your pursuing an independent lawsuit. Once you become a class member, you waive your rights to future litigation relevant to the same harm.

The purpose of a class action suit is to provide a more efficient way for the courts to litigate a claim that could potentially affect thousands — or even millions — of individuals. Class actions also address harms that might be perceived as too small for pursuit by an individual but in the aggregate is a very large harm.

The example Ines cites is that of a company with hourly workers that is not in compliance with state and federal wage-per-hour laws. For example, if a worker is shortchanged a few hundred dollars over the course of his/her employment, it is likely too costly for him/her to pursue legal action to rectify the wrong.

Ines explains that once someone receives a class action notification, there has already been preliminary approval of a settlement by the courts; a judge has approved an amount against which claims can be submitted and as a result a pot of money has been set aside. Interestingly, any money left unclaimed goes back to the company being sued, so if class members don't file against it, the company avoids paying that portion of its penalty.

It is sometimes the case that all class members, regardless of whether they have filed a claim or not, simply receive a check in the mail for their portion of a settlement. In such cases it has been determined that everyone was harmed in the exact same way and opting in as a claimant was not necessary.

Help Squad wanted to know, is it ever the case that a class action notification is a scam? Ines says she has not personally encountered such a situation, but cautions that if ever you receive a notice requesting a social security number or other personal identity data, you should think twice before providing it. There is always a case name and number, as well as an address and phone number, provided on every legitimate class action notice. If you are at all skeptical, call the number and/or do your due diligence via the Internet before signing on.

One rather interesting industry insight Ines shared with Help Squad was that for a time it was somewhat common for class action lawyers to recommend their clients make settlement payments via coupons. This meant that claimants would receive a coupon for discounted services or merchandise from the very company they had just sued!

When judges suggested that lawyers be paid in coupons if that was the way class members were to be compensated, this practice (shockingly) slowed significantly.

Need help?

Did a utilities company overcharge you? Did a boutique deny your request for a return? Are you the victim of fraudulent business practices? Is someone just exhibiting bad business behavior? Let Help Squad make the call for you. Send your letters, your complaints, your injustices and your story ideas to HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com and we will be happy to help you.

BIZ NOTES

• **Nancy Nagy**, CEO of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices KoenigRubloff Realty Group, has announced **Katie Roberts** as assistant managing broker of the company's Glenview, Deerfield and Lincoln Park Webster offices. Roberts began her real estate career with the company eleven years ago. She is a lifelong resident of the North Shore and is an alumna of Regina Dominican High School in Wilmette. She earned a degree in social work at Xavier University in Cincinnati.

• **Combined Insurance**, a leading provider of individual supplemental accident, disability, health and life insurance products, and an ACE Group Company, has named **Nancy Maloy** senior vice president, market initiatives. This newly created role will bring together product innovation, product management, and marketing under coordinated leadership. Maloy joined Combined Insurance in early 2013, most recently serving as vice president and actuary overseeing product pricing. Prior to moving to Illinois, Maloy spent twenty years at Physicians Mutual in Omaha, Neb. There she served as chief actuary until moving to the operations area as senior vice president of operations, where she managed the underwriting, policyholder services and claims division. Additionally, she worked as an actuary pricing life and annuity products for Allstate Life Insurance Company.

• **Allstate** agency owner **John Tunnell** recently received the Agency Hands in the Community Award for his commitment to helping others. With this award came a $1000 grant from The Allstate Foundation for Bateman Elementary School in Chicago, where Tunnell volunteers.

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Business

Sheepskin Factory Depot attracts people with its product line and customer service

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Special for Pioneer Press | @istudenkov

The Sheepskin Depot is easy to miss. It's located in on Waukegan Road, one of Niles' less busy streets, near the Birchwood Avenue intersection. Owner Demetrie Livaditis said that even many local residents don't notice it.

"Every day, we get someone who comes in and says 'We've been driving by for ten years and didn't know this was here,'" said Livaditis

But what the store lacks in prominence it makes up for with customer loyalty and the range of products. Sheepskin Depot is the only shop in Cook County that specializes in sheepskin and wool products, offering clothes, footwear, blankets, rugs, seat coverings and even toys.

The store is getting ready expand to a new frontier as it prepares to launch a website and an online store sometime this spring.

Livaditis has been the owner of Sheepskin Depot for the past four years, but he's been involved with the store in some capacity since his family opened it seventeen years ago. While it sold products from a number of companies, it was their decision to become UGG boots retailer than benefited them most in the long run.

"We were one of the first places to carry UGG boots [in United States]," said Livaditis. "It was a perfect pairing for us. At the time, no one was familiar with them. As they grew, so did we."

Livaditis said that, even now, Sheepskin Depot has one of the largest selections of UGG boots in the country. It also offers an extensive selection of Schott brand wool coats and jackets, as well as vests, sheepskin slippers and seat covers for cars and motorcycles, along other products.

The store was located on Milwaukee Avenue for the first six years of the business. The location brought in decent traffic, but the space became too small for their needs, and they moved to the current location.

"We got a bigger showroom, and we were able to add workspace in the back," said Livaditis.

Having the workspace allowed Sheepskin Depot to do something that has since become an important part of their business - create customized car seat covers and slippers. The sheepskin, Livaditis explained, is great at retaining heat, but it also breathes well. This makes the seat covers and slippers useful even during the warm months.

"We can do slippers that prevent the swelling of the feet and keep people warm," said Livaditis.

While the current location doesn't attract as much foot traffic as the previous one, Livaditis said that he continues to be surprised at how much traffic he does get.

"People keep discovering us," he said. "[The number of customers] grows very organically, through word-of-mouth."

Livaditis feels that the quality of the customer service is the big reason why the numbers keep growing.

Sheepskin Depot continues to carry a large selection of UGG boots. | IGOR STUDENKOV/FOR PIONEER PRESS

The Sheepskin Depot sells Schott brand jackets and sheepskin slippers, among other products. Sheepskin Depot continues to carry a large selection of UGG boots. | IGOR STUDENKOV/FOR PIONEER PRESS

"We pay attention to details, we ask a lot of questions, and we know the product very, very well," he said. "We want to make sure that the customers will get something that will accomplish what they are looking for."

While the Niles Herald-Spectator was in the store, Livaditis paused the interview to take care of two customers who were looking to buy boots. He let them try several different sizes and explained advantages and drawbacks of different types of boots. When the customers chose the pair, he explained how to make sure the boots stay water-resistant while emphasizing that they were not completely waterproof.

Over the past two years, Livaditis has been working to increase the store's online presence. The store's Facebook page was launched in the fall of 2013, and he has been working on a website that will include the online store.

Livaditis said that the website would simply be an extension of Sheepskin Depot's retail presence. His focus will still be on the physical store.

"I would hope that people of Niles wouldn't buy our products online," said Livaditis."This product, sheepskin, is a brick and mortar product. You know the woman [I helped earlier]? She tried on several pairs of boots. You have to do that."

MISSING PAGES

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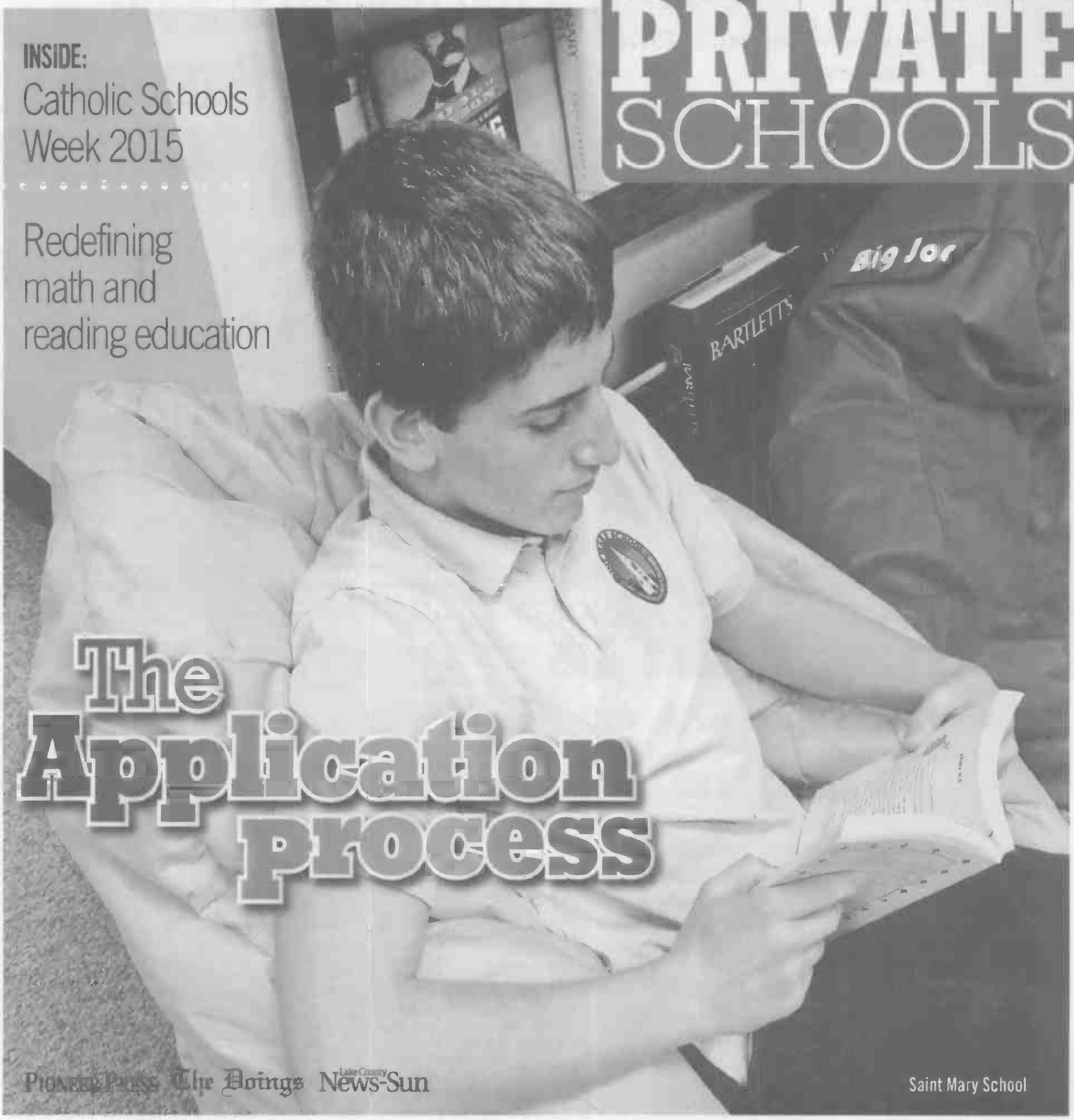
PRIVATE SCHOOLS

INSIDE:

Catholic Schools Week 2015

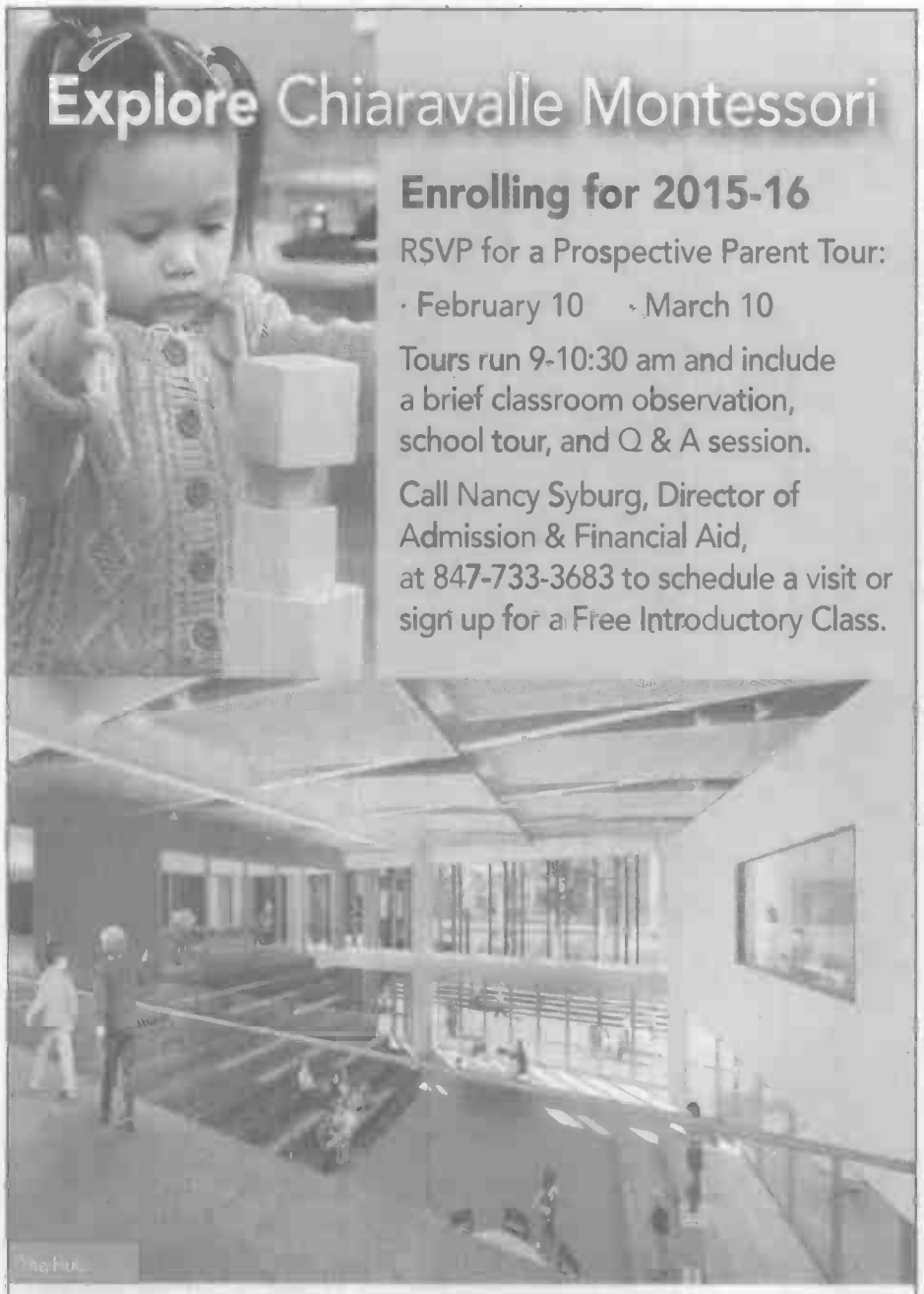
Redefining math and reading education



The Application process

PIONEER PRESS The Doings Lake County News-Sun

Saint Mary School



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The Private School Admissions Process

BY WENDY ALTSCHULER
For Sun-Times Media

A careful process: Consider the potential intellectual growth of your child. At Chiaravalle Montessori, play is purposeful. A young student uses great concentration to connect the pieces. | PHOTO BY SAM LEVITAN

Navigating the private school admission process jungle can be quite tricky, especially if you're somewhat of a neophyte. Pay attention to details. In some cases, parents must put in a great deal of work to achieve right of entry to your desired school. Many schools integrate arduous interviews and incorporate specific submission guidelines and deadlines, testing requirements, and wait-list protocols into their application procedure. Getting into the top schools can be rather competitive and necessitate the inclusion of writing samples and detailed admission forms. Stellar grades and test scores are, thankfully, only part of what most schools consider. The potential intellectual growth of your child as well as how she will fit into the school community are also of utmost importance.

Some common mistakes could possibly impair your likelihood for admission. Habitually calling an admissions office, not keeping the lines of communication open, failing to tour the school at the scheduled time, tardiness, repeatedly missing deadlines and canceling appointments could all be detrimental to the chances of your child earning a coveted spot.

The application process can be an anxiety producing exercise for many parents, thus the motive behind the inception of a brilliant organization called Primary Readiness Enrichment Program (PREP). This Chicago-based test-tutoring curriculum prepares students and parents for the grueling application process for private schools. In a twelve-week session, kids will learn invaluable language maturity, listening techniques, orientation and spatial interactions, among other skills, which will give them a competitive edge when applying. Parents may go through a series of informational sessions to learn about the myriad of options that exist.

Advice, insight and what to expect moving forward:

Delve into the process early, as the spaces available might be scarce and the competition high.

"First and foremost, parents should do their research. Take tours, talk to directors. While exploring the educational options available for your student, it is important to realize the best school is the school that fulfills student's needs," said Geri Redd, founder of PREP. "By first determining their academic motivation, personality and how they process information, you'll have a clearer understanding in the selection process of which schools' philosophy, goals and long-term plans are best suited for them."

Redd also recommends submitting your application promptly, providing respectable letters of recommendation, making sure your child is ready if testing is required and sending a personal and pensive thank you letter to the director after your interview or tour with the school.

"Put your best foot forward during your interview. Treat this like a job interview. Dress to impress," said Redd. "Ask thoughtful questions that show you have done your homework. Be clear and concise in your responses to questions. Be yourself! Schools are looking for a diverse population of families that would be a good match for the school. Let them know what benefits your student and your family would bring to the school."

Why should all of these measures be taken?

"Would it be fair to send your child to take the SAT or ACT without any idea of what to expect? The same concept applies here. There are certain skills that are required for anyone to be successful while taking tests or participating in interviews," Redd said. "They need to be familiar with the types of questions that are asked, be able to sit and pay attention for a longer period of time and even be comfortable answering questions from a stranger."

Visit prepchicago.com for more information.

Education: Regina Dominican uses the most forward-thinking resources available to encourage students to excel. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

INSIPID NO LONGER

Kids absorb mathematics and reading

BY WENDY ALTSCHULER
For Sun-Times Media

With user-friendly online learning opportunities at kids' fingertips and accessible books, children can really be inspired to learn and excel in math and reading. Students are set up for long-term success when teachers and administration are on board instilling the love of mathematics and reading in the classroom and when families offer support at home.

Mathematics to move

Regina Dominican uses the most forward-thinking resources available to encourage students to excel in math. For example, in the fall semester, students participated in an engaging Stanford University online course that fused videos into the lessons titled How to Learn Math. The course integrated Stanford research to teach students different ways to approach math problems.

Mary Stenson, mathematics teacher at Regina Dominican, said: "The Regina Dominican Mathematics department participated in this program because we felt the need to change our students' attitudes about mathematics. There is widespread belief that some people are naturally good at math, and some are not. We want our students to realize that this idea has been widely disputed by researchers and that everyone can excel at math."

The right choice: Teachers at Saint Mary School build the foundation for reading by working diligently to pair students with the right books. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

Mathematics teacher Sandy Locher said, "This course was presented as six mini-lessons, ranging in topics from Knocking Down Myths About Math to Math in Life, Nature and Work. The lessons were interactive and geared toward the high school student."

Breaking barriers to learning has become Regina Dominican's core ethos when it comes to mathematics. Every mathematics student at Regina Dominican participated in the Stanford University course either in-class, online or at home.

Influence and recommendations

Early learners at The Goddard School — a school that fosters the cognitive and social development of each child through activities that are guided by qualified teachers — are introduced to a variety of books from the infant level through kindergarten. Teachers read to the youngest students and allow them to freely explore and by the time the children are toddlers they gravitate toward specific stories.

Adding to knowledge: Every mathematics student at Regina Dominican participated in the Stanford University course either in-class, online or at home. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

First Steps (12-18 months) teacher, Gloria McIelwain, said that Snappy Little Colors and Snappy Little Splashers are loved pop up books. The Touch and Feel series by Usborne Books and Farm Alarm by Jack Tickle are also applauded.

McIelwain helps to build the love of reading in her students by allowing children to sit on her lap, and turn pages, while she reads to them.

"Children love to explore and interact with books with textures and sounds," said McIelwain. "Repetition is important when reading to children."

"When Ms. Gloria pulled out some of the children's favorite books to show me, some of the children made sounds indicating they knew what we were looking at and they wanted to hear the story," said Ellen Ley, owner at The Goddard School. "Introducing songs and finger play at this age is also beneficial. The children learn to be a part of the story."

The Bookmobile visits The Goddard School twice a month. Children learn how to borrow and take care of the books.

Christine Chung, education director, was a preschool teacher for many years and, according to Ley, always enjoyed story telling.

SEE WORDS AND NUMBERS, PAGE 5

Science: Women are working to promote math and engineering programs for high school girls. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

Women in science seek to bridge gender gap

When the high school class of 2014 graduates from college in five years, more than 8 million jobs will be available in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). For students today, STEM is their future.

Innovations driven by STEM are shaping today's economy. Though STEM accounts for a majority of job growth in the U.S., the number of students enrolling in relevant degree programs in college to fill these positions continues to decline, leaving a gap of skilled professionals. Women, in particular, are underrepresented in STEM. While women account for nearly half of all filled jobs nationwide, only a quarter of STEM-related positions are held by women.

Given the known gap, many women industry pioneers are showing young girls they too can be successful in STEM. They are leading the charge in bettering the world by developing innovations and technologies such as global, online crowd-sourcing platforms that allow supporters to give funds from mobile devices. Others are advancing alternative energy products that deliver electricity, water and other basic resources in developing countries.

To help bridge the gap and ready the next generation of women innovators, many organizations support initiatives to introduce students, specifically young girls, to the importance of STEM. DeVry University, for instance, has its annual HerWorld program.

"HerWorld was created 16 years ago to educate high school girls about STEM and careers in STEM," says Donna Loraine, provost/vice president of Academic Affairs at DeVry University. "Our goal is to show girls how they can make a difference in the world through these fields."

A recent study by the Girl Scout Research Institute found that more than 80 percent of high school girls surveyed expressed interest in considering a career in a STEM field, including engineering, information technology and software development. This is a positive outlook, as positions in STEM are becoming available more rapidly than opportunities in any other field.

HerWorld empowers young women to succeed alongside their male counterparts by participating in confidence-building activities and hands-on workshops. They also hear inspirational stories from real, female role models working in STEM fields.

This year, nearly 7,000 girls from high schools across the country will attend local events during National HerWorld Month in March. Emmy-Award nominated actress Mayim Bialik, renowned for her roles on television series Blossom and The Big Bang Theory, is partnering with DeVry University to further the mission of HerWorld and inspire these girls by sharing her personal STEM journey - balancing her acting career while earning her Doctorate of Philosophy degree in neuroscience from UCLA.

Courtesy of Brandpoint

National Catholic Schools Week

National Catholic Schools Week, the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States, is Jan. 25-31, 2015.

This year's theme is Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service. The theme encompasses several concepts that are at the heart of a Catholic education. First, schools are communities — not only small families in their own right but also members of the larger community of home, church, city and nation. Faith, knowledge and service are three measures by which any Catholic school should be judged.

The logo features a swirl of colors interacting around a cross. The vibrancy of the colors and the movement and shadows in the logo portray the inner-connectivity and community life that are present in our Catholic schools.

Schools observe the annual celebration week with masses, open houses and/or other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools can focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to the church, communities and nation.

Visit ncea.org/our-services/catholic-schools-week for information on how to celebrate in your school, including an online toolkit, activity ideas and other downloadable resources.

Use the #CSW15 hashtag the join others celebrating Catholic Schools Week on social media.

Visit ncea.org for more information.

Academics: The curriculum at Prince of Peace Catholic School serves as a guide for the faculty in promoting the spiritual and intellectual growth of the individual child. Teachers employ a variety of teaching-learning strategies and assessment techniques to encourage students to learn and achieve to their fullest potential. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

PRODUCED BY CUSTOM MEDIA SOLUTIONS
Editor: Tammy Matthews
Designer: Jennifer Frencl
SPECIALSECTIONS.SUNTIMES.COM
GOOD TO KNOW

WORDS AND NUMBERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

"The children couldn't help but be engaged with the changing of her voice and the introducing of different characters; they always loved that part of circle time," Ley said. "The children never seem to grow tired of being read to; they are quick to ask 'will you read this to me?' Allowing the children to reenact a story can be a great way for them to be comfortable getting in front of their classmates—acting silly or serious—and to learn about character development."

Chung recommends the Pete The Cat series by Kimberly and James Dean, Skippyjon Jones by Judy Schachner and The Book with no Pictures by B.J. Novak.

Pre-kindergarten teacher, Lisa Sims, loves Mo Willems, author of *The Pigeon Book Series*. Sims loves to use expression when she reads, and her students usually follow suit when reading to each other.

The road to knowledge begins with the turn of a page: The Saint Mary School library has more than 10,000 books available. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

Bookworm: Mimi Conrad, Saint Mary School library and literacy teacher, said: "Literacy drives our curriculum; the library is the hub for this activity. The library is a bright and attractive place with high interest books." | SUPPLIED PHOTO

The feel and smell of a good book

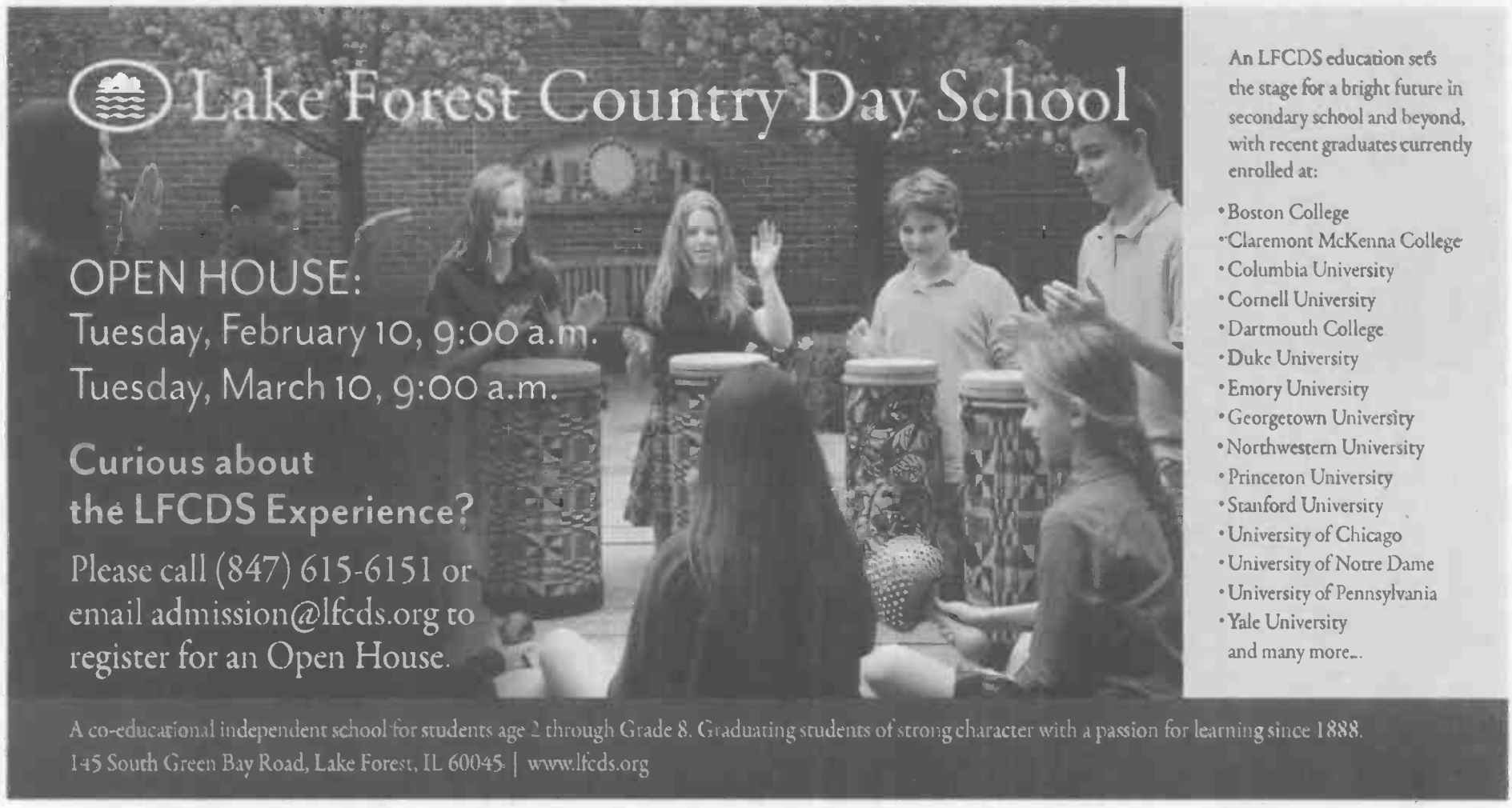
Teachers at Saint Mary School build the foundation for reading — transcending the school years — by working diligently to pair students with the right books. The school library has more than 10,000 books available to enrolled learners.

"We give students multiple opportunities to read fiction and non-fiction text, and most importantly we provide children with opportunities to talk about what they have read with their teachers and with their peers," said Nikki Raftery, principal at Saint Mary School. "This social component makes the reading relevant in their lives and encourages more reading."

Junior high ELAR teacher Eileen Kirk said: "People often ask me to recommend a good book and I always respond by asking, 'A good book for whom?' because the match between the book and the reader is the single most important part of making the book good. If a student develops a connection to what they are reading, they will be hungry for more and more until a reader is born."

Children turn into brilliant readers through Saint Mary School's library, which is full of new and engaging titles, including a plethora of popular book series. For example, Emily Anderson, the fourth-grade ELAR teacher, assigned the first in a series to each of her literature circle groups for summer reading and then over the summer many of the students completed the series.

Mimi Conrad, library and literacy teacher at Saint Mary School, said: "At Saint Mary, literacy drives our curriculum; the library is the hub for this activity. The library is a bright and attractive place with high interest books, both fiction and nonfiction; many recommended or requested by our students. The support of our whole community at Saint Mary makes it possible to put books into children's hands."



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First Grade	11 + 12 =
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Fourth Grade	Count by 1¾ from 0 to 7.
Fifth Grade	Which is greatest: 17/18, 23/30, or 18/19? (Explain how you got your answer.)
Sixth Grade	Halfway through the second quarter, how much of the game is left?
Seventh Grade	How much is 6½% of 250?
Pre-Algebra	On a certain map, 6 inches represents 25 miles. How many miles does 15 inches represent?
Algebra	When you take 3 away from twice a number, the answer is 8. What is the number?
Geometry	What is the Absolute Value of the point (3, 4)?

For answers and explanations visit: www.mathnasium.com/answers

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EXCITE & EDUCATE

Engaging: St. Athanasius School provides an integrated approach for all areas of development. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

Agape Orthodox Christian Preschool and Kindergarten
1401 Wagner Rd.
Glenview IL 60025
(847) 729-5814
ssppglenview.org/agape-preschool

Chiaravalle Montessori
425 Dempster St.
Evanston, IL 60201
(847) 864-2190
chiaravalle.org

When families walk into Chiaravalle Montessori in September 2015, the school's 50th year, they'll enter the new, light-filled north wing. Featuring a gathering space for community, studio dedicated to the integration of art and science, larger gym, flexible theater to house top-notch drama programming, dedicated music room, and student-centered library — each one thoughtfully-designed to encourage creativity and independence in even the smallest children. Chiaravalle has incorporated green building techniques and clean energy systems to power the north wing, and the school is confident children will be inspired by the new environment.

Lake Forest Country Day School
145 S. Green Bay Rd.
Lake Forest, IL 60045
(847) 234-2350
lfcds.org

Lake Forest Country Day School delivers a diverse and rich educational experience grounded in academics, arts and athletics to two-year-old through eighth-grade students. Students from more than 30 communities thrive in a innovative, hands-on learning environment that encourages self-expression and confidence through inspired teaching, academic rigor, individualized attention and responsible citizenship. Two important beliefs are at the heart of its teaching philosophy: (1) social and emotional development is inextricably linked with academic achievement and (2) experiential learning creates a foundation for deeper understanding. The student-faculty ratio is better than 7:1. Twenty percent of LFCDS graduates attending colleges and universities ranked in the top 20 by U.S. News and World Report.

Mathnasium of Lincolnwood
6520 N. Lincoln Ave.
Lincolnwood, IL 60712
(847) 983-8247
mathnasium.com/lincolnwood

Mathnasium of Skokie
3453 W. Dempster St.
Skokie, IL 60076
(847) 677-MATH (6284)
mathnasium.com/skokie

Mathnasium of Kenilworth
554 Green Bay Rd.
Kenilworth, IL 60043
(847) 251-3200
mathnasium.com/kenilworth

EXCITE & EDUCATE Local private schools provide unprecedented education

Mathnasium of the Glen
2650 Valor Dr.
Glenview, IL 60026-8058
(847) 998-0900
mathnasium.com/theglen

Mathnasium offers a fun and effective after-school math-learning environment for children in grades 2-12. Mathnasium operates on the core belief that virtually any child can become great at math. The Mathnasium experience begins with a highly detailed assessment of each child's strengths and weaknesses, which is then used to create a customized learning plan. Personalized instruction from Mathnasium's highly trained and caring instructors assures that each student fully understands key concepts before moving on to the next. The Mathnasium makes math make sense to kids.

Solomon Schechter Day School of Metropolitan Chicago
3210 Dundee Rd.
Northbrook, IL 60062
(847) 412-5654
schechter.org

Solomon Schechter Day School of Metropolitan Chicago delivers an outstanding general and Jewish Studies education to children at its early childhood center in Skokie and its Sager K-8 school in Northbrook. Every day at Schechter, gifted educators ignite its students' Jewish souls, educate them to their highest potential and empower them to use their knowledge, skills and creativity to enrich the world. Schechter graduates attend more than a dozen public and Jewish high schools, where they thrive inside and outside the classroom. Solomon Schechter Day School is proud of its tuition assistance program, which provides scholarships to nearly 50 percent of Schechter families.

St. Athanasius School
2510 Ashland Ave.
Evanston, IL 60201
(847) 864-2650
saintas.net

At St. Athanasius School, students work together to build a family-like community. The Big Brothers/Big Sisters program has a rich tradition of connecting students for more than 35 years. Each first grader is connected to an eighth grader and together they attend mass, have a Halloween parade and picnic lunches throughout the year. The Be Fair! program started to teach students how to work as a team and prevent bullying. Students are group as families and meet several times a year for activities and learn how to be children of God. These and other initiatives create a warm and loving environment in which our students are called to love, learn and lead.

St. Joan of Arc School
9245 N. Lawndale Ave.
Evanston, IL 60203
(847) 679-0660
sjasaints.org

St. Joan of Arc Elementary School has been providing an exceptional education for children in pre-school through eighth grade for more than 50 years. Its school offers a close-knit community and an exceptional education rooted in Catholic traditions. Its mission is to engage, challenge and inspire its students to become life-long learners and citizens committed to service. St. Joan of Arc is proud to be a National Blue Ribbon School of Academic Excellence. The school offers a technology rich curriculum, an average class size of less than 20 students, extended care, and a dynamic extra-curricular program including our state recognized Science Olympiad team.

Wesley Child Care Center
727 Harlem Ave.
Glenview IL 60025
(847) 729-0184
wesleychildcarecenter.com

Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart
760 E. Westleigh Rd.
Lake Forest, IL 60045
(847) 234-4300
woodlandsacademy.org

Located in Lake Forest, Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart is a Catholic day and boarding college-preparatory high school for young women in grades nine through 12 that promotes academic, artistic and athletic excellence along with global awareness, social responsibility and strong faith. Woodlands Academy is part of a worldwide network of Sacred Heart Schools that spans the United States and 40 other countries. Founded in 1858, its identity is rooted in a desire to inspire young hearts and minds to excel, to lead lives of integrity and to serve. Learn more at woodlandsacademy.org.

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847.234.4300 | 760 EAST WESTLEIGH ROAD, LAKE FOREST, IL 60045 | WOODLANDSACADEMY.ORG

For a comprehensive listing of research about the benefits of all-girls' education, visit the National Coalition of Girls' Schools (NCGS).

THE CRÈME DE LA CRÈME
Lake Forest Country Day School

BY WENDY ALTSCHULER
For Sun-Times Media

When you're searching for a first-rate education for your children, look no further than Lake Forest Country Day School (LFCDS). The mission and objectives at LFCDS focus on providing the best possible learning experience for your children — grounded in academics, arts and athletics — setting them up for a bright future.

"Teaching and learning are not by rote here," said LFCDS head of school, Bob Whelan. "The classrooms, technology offerings, laboratories, art spaces and playing fields all serve as vital staging grounds for a rich program, designed to prepare LFCDS graduates to be compassionate, independent thinkers with a strong sense of personal integrity and intellectual curiosity."

Judith Foley Arnstein, director of admission and financial aid at LFCDS said that the education experience for two-year-olds through eighth-grade students is specifically designed to inspire and challenge individual students at the top of their abilities, according to their needs.

Students are flourishing at LFCDS. According to *U.S. News and World Report*, 20 percent of LFCDS graduates attend colleges and universities ranked in the top 20.

"Students from over 30 communities thrive in a state-of-the-art, hands-on learning environment that encourages self-expression and confidence through inspired teaching, academic rigor, individualized attention and responsible citizenship," Arnstein said.

"Two important beliefs are at the core of our teaching philosophy: social and emotional development is inextricably linked with academic achievement; and experiential learning creates a foundation for deeper understanding," she said.

Core values: Inspired teaching, academic rigor, attention to individual needs and a commitment to responsible citizenship: these principles infuse every aspect of life at Lake Forest Country Day School. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

Learning can be fun

"At LFCDS, we believe that rigorous academics can be taught in dynamic ways that allow students to experience the joy and excitement that is at the heart of so many enduring learning experiences," said Whelan. "We feel privileged to partner with students and families in the development of the very foundations upon which these children will build their lives."

Elementary and middle school, Whelan went on to say, is a remarkable journey, which makes providing an optimal setting, with resources for growth, absolutely key. Students at LFCDS are exposed to progressive curriculum that supports growth in applied, experience-based, problem-solving methodologies.

Explore: Lake Forest Country Day School is dedicated to producing students of strong character with a passion for learning. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

"Relationships are a major part of the LFCDS experience; between students and teachers, and among peers actively engaged in the pursuit of academic excellence," said Whelan. "Our small class sizes and exceptional teacher-student ratios enable our educators to help children take intellectual risks, develop confidence in their abilities and shape their identities as individuals."

The admission process

"Once a family has done its due diligence and chooses to apply, the formal application process begins with submitting an application," Arnstein said.

If space is available, mid-year applicants are permitted.

After the application has been received and reviewed, previous school records are requested. A screening and classroom visit will then be scheduled, allowing your child to get an authentic feel for the school. Children applying for the early childhood programs visit the homeroom for up to one hour and students enrolling in grades 1-8 will stay for the entire day, shadowing an existing student.

"During the LFCDS admission process, children have an opportunity to visit our classroom communities; early childhood center applicants take part in daily activities such as morning meeting, group learning experiences, small group stations and exploratory play," said Jennifer Farrell and Mimi Aiston, junior kindergarten teachers. "During this visit, applicants interact with teachers and the children at their grade level, which gives the teachers a chance to observe children in a natural classroom setting. These classroom visits and assessments allow teachers to play an important role in the admission process."

"Teacher input from the visit day is an important component of a student's admission portfolio," Arnstein said. "Once we have input from the visit day, we review the student's application and determine whether LFCDS would be a good fit. As a family school, we also consider whether siblings have applied or are attending our school. We firmly believe that a family, not just a stu-

Turn to for assistance: Lake Forest Country Day School teachers provide encouragement and support to help students grow in self-awareness and self-discipline so they can manage the increasingly challenging coursework. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

dent, joins our community."

"During the LFCDS admission process, kids get an opportunity to experience our program offerings and immerse themselves in the culture of our school," said Kevin Nicholson, early childhood and Lower School science teacher. "Allowing students to meet teachers and prospective classmates takes away some of the anxiety that might surround moving schools. Our admission process really embraces the whole child and makes them feel welcome and understood."

How can families learn more?

Visit lfcds.org to see curriculum guides specific to each grade level; application instructions; and tuition and financial aid information.

"LFCDS seeks to enroll a talented and diverse student body and believes that the cost of an independent school education should not be a deterrent to families," said Arnstein. "Our financial assistance program provides need-based financial assistance to eligible families who require financial assistance and view education at LFCDS as a top priority for their children. In addition to financial assistance, up to two merit scholarships are available for qualified incoming fifth graders."

Support: Educators create developmentally appropriate learning environments that promote growth. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

Check out an open house, which is an opportunity to meet teachers and administrators, hear a panel of student speakers and explore the school. Tours include classroom observation; an insider's peek at the daily life at LFCDS; and faculty, teacher and existing parents meet-and-greets.

"Speaking with existing parents allows applicant families to get a sense of our school community and to ask all of the questions they might hesitate to ask the Director of Admission," said Arnstein.

Have an open dialogue with the director of admission.

"Be honest about your child's needs; does he or she require support, enrichment or accommodations?" Arnstein said. "Our greatest hope is for the success of your child and having an accurate picture of who your child is as a learner will help us make an informed decision as to whether LFCDS will provide the best environment for them to excel."

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

Admission Open House: Thursday, Jan. 8 at 9 a.m.

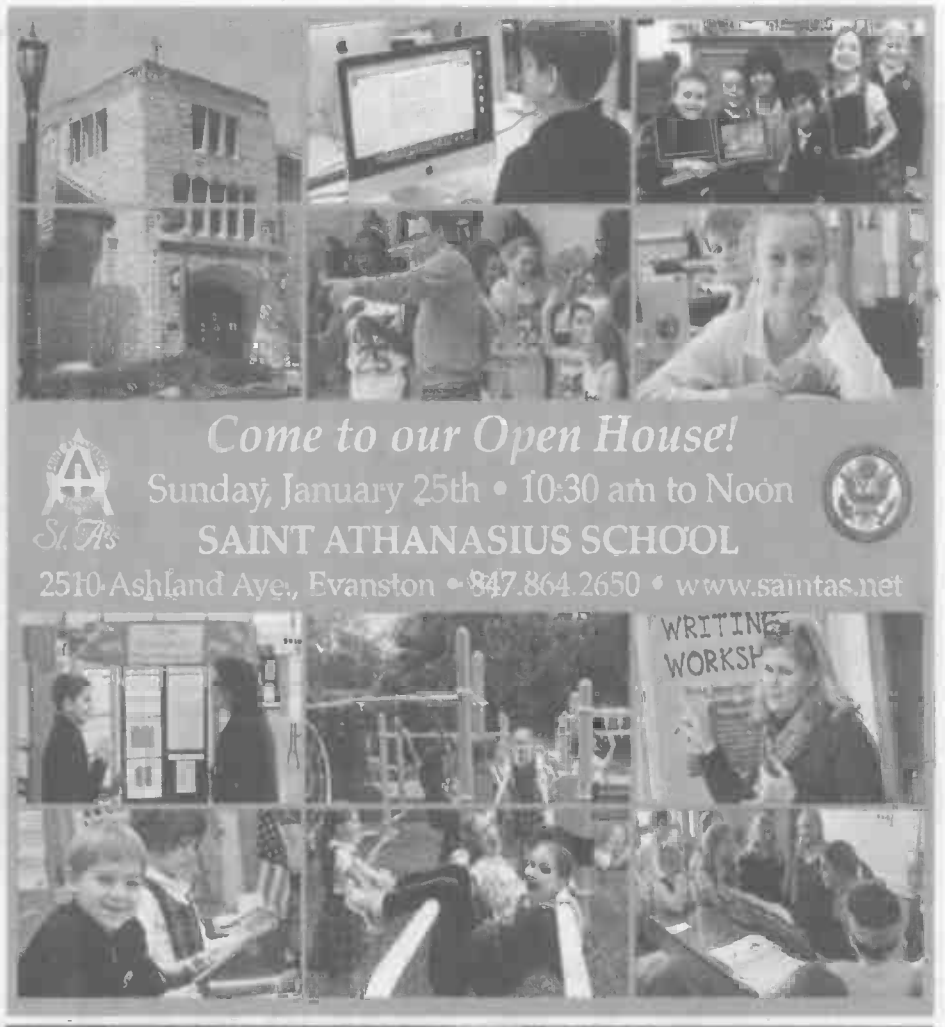
Admission Open House: Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 9 a.m.

Admission Open House: Tuesday, March 10 at 9 a.m.

Robbie Bermingham Speaking Contest: Wednesday, April 29 at 8:15 a.m.

Spring Choral Concert: Thursday, May 7 at 7 p.m.

Spring Band Concert: Thursday, May 14 at 7 p.m.



Hooked up: St. Joan of Arc School raised funds and donated Netbooks to Uganda. | SUPPLIED PHOTO

Volunteerism develops culture of empathy, sincerity

BY WENDY ALTSCHULER
For Sun-Times Media

Parents have a tough gig. They are responsible for providing all of the basic needs for their children — a warm and safe home, nourishing sustenance, affection — and they are tasked with the amazing job of shaping their children into happy, healthy and upstanding adults. Parents are accountable for teaching their children how to not only survive but also how to relish in their existence and the world around them. One of the best ways to develop a strong character in children is volunteering, which helps kids to think about others in need. By becoming active participants in their own community, children are able to feel a sense of responsibility for their actions as well as feel confidence and pride in their abilities to be advocates for good causes.

Many places around Chicago function with help from volunteers. One organization that depends greatly on the kind hearts of others is the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD), where 98,000 volunteer hours were served last year. Children as young as 5 can begin volunteering at the GCFD. Individuals, groups, schools or families can get together and really make a difference at this non-profit organization that aims to end hunger in the community by providing meals and integrative training to people in need.

Visitchicagosfoodbank.org for more information on how you, your child or your child's school can help.

Fortunately, parents are not alone in the goal of teaching our children about volunteerism. Many schools integrate volunteer service into the prospectus. Fenwick High School, a Catholic college preparatory school in Oak Park, for example, has a Christian Service Project (CSP) as part of the Moral Theology curriculum. Juniors are required to complete a minimum of 40 up-paid service hours at a non-profit organization in order to receive credit necessary for graduation.

In a welcome letter on the school website, Fenwick High School president, Fr. Richard A. Peddicord said: "Since 1929, we have equipped young people with the tools necessary for successful, meaningful and faith-filled lives. In this, we continue to rely on a dedicated and highly credentialed faculty — men and women, lay and religious — who are committed to forming the next generation of society's leaders."

Peddicord goes on to say, "Wisdom, truth, vision and love: as more and more people receive these gifts, our world will be transformed for the good of all."

St. Joan of Arc School in Evanston is another values-driven school that emphasizes the importance of contributing to and serving society. According to its website, "The school promotes Catholic social teachings through student participation in service projects, which encourage an understanding of the dignity of every person and a respect for God's creation. Recognizing the support of the parish, St. Joan of Arc School emphasizes the importance of students giving back to their communities through participation in parish ministries and hosting events for the community at large. School faculty, parish staff, parents, and students share the responsibility for developing compassionate young adults who will understand and respect the differences among people, and who will work cooperatively with others to meet the challenges of an ever-changing world."

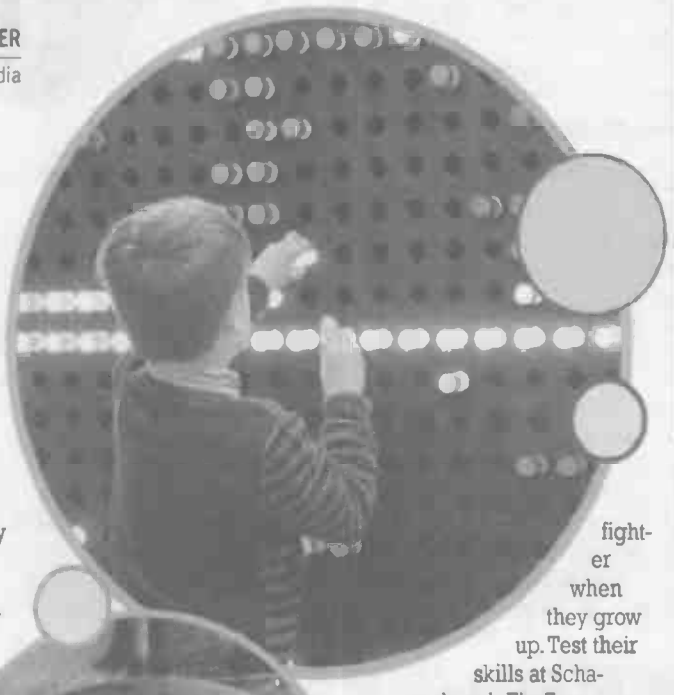
Parents who use the resources around them, including the schools their children attend, will find that there are many volunteer opportunities available for their children. Volunteering promotes a healthy lifestyle in children by enhancing their development and life skills, improving the community they live in and encouraging a strong service ethic.

SPECIAL REPORT

Family-Friendly Winter Fun

Winter break is officially over, but that doesn't mean that winter fun has to end. If you and your family have been cooped up for far too long, gear up and venture outside for fresh air and enthusing winter activities that are sure to get your blood pumping: ice skating, sledding, skiing and snowshoeing. Or stay indoors, stay warm and play all winter long.

BY WENDY ALTSCHULER
For Sun-Times Media



INDOOR

JUMP:

Xtreme Trampolines, in Buffalo Grove and Carol Stream, offers an opportunity for families to burn off some energy. Children — as young as three — can bounce and play. A live DJ spins every Saturday night. Xtreme Trampolines is the first trampoline park in the Chicago area and they remain the largest.

"My kids complain of boredom and play too many video games during this time of year, so jumping on trampolines is just the ticket," said Eric Beck, owner of Xtreme Trampolines. "Kids think this place is a hoot and parents love us because their kids are getting exercise and they are tired after all that jumping."

EXPLORE:

Skokie's Exploritorium is a perfect indoor activity for little ones eight and under. From climbing structures with a zip line to water tables and from imaginative dress up to art activities: this place has it all. Wee ones will have a safe and social experience, in their element.

"The Exploritorium is a great place for kids to run around in a contained environment and let off some steam," said Mary Amato, Exploritorium supervisor. "Exhibits include a large Lite Brite wall, a tubes and tunnel structure, a theatre area and more!"

BE SAFE:

Many kids want to be a firefighter when they grow up. Test their skills at Schaumburg's FireZone. Wednesdays and Fridays are drop-in days and special activities are available each week. FireZone hosts fun events such as the Breakfast with the Firefighters and Firehouse Stories.

"It has been an awesome experience to combine the fascination of firefighting into a fun, hands-on environment," said Chris Gantz, managing director at FireZone. "Parents come to the FireZone and remember when they were all about the red lights and sirens and now they see that love through their child's eyes. We pride ourselves on a unique and safe indoor play space unlike anything else in the country. Who doesn't love firefighters and fire trucks?"

SEE FAMILY FUN, PAGE 12

Saints Peter & Paul
AGAPE Orthodox Christian Preschool & Kindergarten
(1401 Wagner Road, Glenview)

Registration for Kindergarten and our-2's, 3's, and 4 year-old preschool programs for the 2015-16 school year has begun! Our Kindergarten meets Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 2:00pm and includes Art, Gym, Yoga, Religion, Music, Greek Language Instruction and Come & See with our parish priest. This is all in addition to our strong academic curriculum of Math, Language Arts, Science and Social Studies! If you are interested in any of our programs, please contact our director, Renée at 847-729-5814 or visit us at ssppglenview.org/agape-preschool

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FAMILY FUN | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

FOR THE BIG KIDS AND ADULTS:

WhirlyBall, located in Chicago, Lombard and Vernon Hills, is the ideal activity for those with a fun and competitive spirit. Take the skills of lacrosse and basketball and mash them up with bumper cars and you've got an exciting game of WhirlyBall.

"As we all are painfully aware: driving in the winter is absolutely no fun — unless, of course, you're in a bumper car on a WhirlyBall court," said John Krol, marketing director, WhirlyBall. "Even folks who embrace the icy cold weather need to come indoors sometime, and WhirlyBall is there for them."

Laser tag, pool, air hockey and a climbing wall will keep everyone engaged and active.

"All that can work up an appetite, so our restaurant menu has hearty comfort-food favorites to satisfy you and help you carb-up for the next round of fun," Krol said. "Adults will find the full-service bar and amazing selection of craft beers quite re-energizing as well!"

LOVELY SIGHTS AND SMELLS:

From Feb. 14 through March 15, The Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe will host the Orchid Show; bamboo structures and lantern-style floats will showcase more than 10,000 tropical and aromatic colorations.

"The Orchid Show fills our Greenhouses with color and fragrance, and gives families an opportunity to interact with nature during the coldest, greyest time of year. Interpretive signage throughout the exhibit will introduce children to the fascinating world of orchids.

"Kids will relate to the theme of this year's show: vanilla. Not everyone realizes that vanilla comes from an orchid, but almost everyone enjoys vanilla ice cream, chocolate chip cookies and other recipes using vanilla. We are even offering a special weekend family class, Homemade Ice Cream, to show where vanilla flavoring comes from and make up a batch of ice cream," said Jodi Zombolo, director, visitor events and programs.

OUTDOOR

NEIGHBORHOOD FUN:

The Northbrook Park District offers two ice-skating rinks (Meadowhill Park and Tower Rink) and two sled hills (Woodoaks Green Park and Techny Prairie Park and Fields). Skate rentals are available at the Northbrook Sports Center for $8 per day.

"The Park District activities allow visitors to stay active, appreciate nature and enjoy the beauty of the winter season," said Gail Baritz, communications specialist at Northbrook Park District.

For cross-country skiing and snowshoeing opportunities on trails and small hills, visit Sportsman's Country Club. Bring your own equipment or rent gear from the clubhouse. Skiing prices are $12 for adults and $8 for youth, and snowshoes are $5 for adults and $3 for youth. If you have your own ski equipment, you may enter for no charge.

"From sunrise to sunset, outdoor-enthusiasts can enjoy cross-country skiing and snowshoeing," Baritz said. "With warm clothing, proper equipment and common sense, families can enjoy the thrill of sports combined with the beauty of winter scenery, close to home and at little or no cost."

If you're new to cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, you'll benefit from instruction. Learn the basics on Saturday mornings in January and February from 10 a.m. to noon, weather and snow permitting, for $15 per session plus equipment rental.

For the more exploratory skiers, check out Candlelight Skiing for $5 per person plus rental fees. Available dates are Jan. 9 and Feb. 6 from 5-8 p.m.

"Children and adults can enjoy cross-country skiing as the warm glow of candles illuminates the trail, giving the grounds a magical fairy-tale feeling," Baritz said.

Visit nbparks.org for more information.

BIG CITY, BIG ADVENTURE:

For a magical Chicago ice skating experience, that you can combine with other fun activities such as shopping on the Magnificent Mile or grabbing a bite at Rick Bayless's Frontera Fresco, visit Millennium Park's McCormick Tribune Ice Rink. Free and open to the public, this popular rink draws more than 100,000 skaters annually. Skating lessons and rentals are available as well as skate sharpening, hot chocolate and snacks. Visit cityofchicago.org for information.

For a charming outdoors escapade, check out Lincoln Park Zoo's ice skating at the Farm-at-the-Zoo for a $5 admission fee. Bring your own skates, or rent them at the farmhouse for $5, and enjoy gliding across the ice all season long. The main barn will be open for refreshments...and warmth. Visit lpzoo.org for more information.

"Ice skating is another great reason to come to Lincoln Park Zoo!" said Chris Jorgensen, director of guest services. "Personally, I most look forward to seeing little kids skate for the first time with their families and I'm sure we'll see a few more marriage proposals on the ice this year as well."

GET OUT OF TOWN:

Find great downhill skiing, that won't bust your wallet, at Granite Peak at Rib Mountain State Park in Wausau, Wisconsin; no expensive airfare required. This ski town boasts: 74 runs on well-groomed terrain, night skiing, restaurants, nightlife, pools and spas within four hours from the Chicagoland area. From novice to expert, everyone will find bliss on this 700-foot mountain (the largest vertical decent near Chicagoland). Visit skigranitepeak.com for more information.

Practical and city smart

2015 Trax is Chevy's urban SUV

BY SUE MEAD
Motor Matters

Chevrolet jumps into the urban compact SUV market with the all-new 2015 Trax. The city-smart Trax is one of seven new small-sized vehicles introduced by Chevy over the past four years, more than tripling the manufacturer's offerings in the small-, compact- and mini-car segments.

The five-passenger 2015 Trax is available in three trims. The LS starts at $20,995; LT, $22,445; and LTZ, $25,030.

All are powered by a four-cylinder turbocharged engine and available in front- and all-wheel-drive versions (a $1,500 upcharge), with an EPA-rated top fuel economy of 26 mpg city/34 mpg highway. All models boast a best-in-class 100,000-mile powertrain warranty. Among its competitors are the Kia Soul, Mitsubishi Outlander Sport and Nissan Juke.

From the outside, Trax's tall-hatchback looks are reminiscent of the Chevy Equinox. The front is accented with Chevrolet's signature dual-port grille and swept-back headlights with chrome accents along the aerodynamic body, which is available in seven colors. Available are fog lamps, roof rails, a power sliding sunroof and heated, power-adjustable side mirrors.

Our 80-mile drive of the practical little Trax in San Diego illuminated how the small SUV is going to stand out in this emerging segment. We tried out a number of the gizmos and gadgets that make the Trax a motorized entertainment system on wheels and appreciated its responsive handling, good steering and compliant suspension.

The Trax sits on a 100.6-inch wheelbase and has a planted, wide stance, with a 60.6-inch front and rear track. These dimensions give an urban runabout feel to the driving experience. The tight, 36.7-foot turning circle allows for nimbleness in congested urban environments and makes the Trax easy to park. A rear-view camera is standard.

Inside you'll find an attractive and comfortable cabin that offers versatility for passengers and cargo. The 60/40 rear seats combine with the segment-only, fold-flat front passenger seat to make way for up to 48.4 cubic feet of cargo-carrying capacity. The fold-flat front seat makes it easy to stow items up to 8 feet in length, such as skis, surfboards or building materials for home projects.

The LS model comes with such premium features as the standard Chevrolet MyLink infotainment system with a 7-inch diagonal touchscreen and OnStar 4G LTE with a built-in Wi-Fi hotspot — a first in the segment. These systems can link to devices like smartphones and MP3 players. Also onboard are Bluetooth streaming audio for music and phone, Pandora, TuneIn radio, Stitcher and available BringGo.

GM's Ecotec 1.4-liter turbo produces 138 horsepower at 4,900 rpm and 148 pound-feet of torque at 1,850 rpm; it's matched to a six-speed automatic transmission.

The compact gets 10 airbags, which Chevy says is best in the small SUV class, including driver and passenger knee airbags and the segment's only rear-seat-mounted thorax air bags. StabiliTrak electronic stability control, ABS and electronic brake force distribution, plus cornering brake control and brake assist are standard.

Editor: Howie Raddatz • hraddatz@suntimes.com | Design: Gina Galinis | Director Automotive Advertising: Terry Boyle • tboyle@suntimes.com

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Whichever occurs first,

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2015 Volkswagen Jetta 2.0L S
Sedan Manual
MSRP $18,465 Stock V5143 Model 16325J1 Vin FM263630
MULLER PRICE $16,999*
OR LEASE FOR $129^ mo. 36 mos.
Total due at lease signing $1,999 plus tax, title, lic, doc fee and 1st payment.

2015 Volkswagen Passat 1.8T S
PZEV Sedan Auto
MSRP $23,275 Stock V5163 Model A321Q6 VIN FC055355
MULLER PRICE $19,999*
OR LEASE FOR $159^ mo. 36 mos.
Total due at lease signing $1,999 plus tax, title, lic, doc fee and 1st payment.

ALL NEW **2015 Volkswagen Golf Launch Edition**
2DR HB Manual
MSRP $18,815 Stock V5066 Model AU10Q1 VIN FM023930
MULLER PRICE $17,299*
OR LEASE FOR $189^ mo. 36 mos.
Total due at lease signing $1,999 plus tax, title, lic, doc fee and 1st payment.

2015 Volkswagen Tiguan
4Motion Auto S
MSRP $29,300 Stock V5021 Model 5N2AV3 VIN FW503232
MULLER PRICE $26,799*
OR LEASE FOR $219^ mo. 36 mos.
Total due at lease signing $1,999 plus tax, title, lic, doc fee and 1st payment.

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1350 Park Ave West
847.433.7900
vwofhighlandpark.com

^36 month closed end lease to qualified buyers with approved credit; no security deposit required. All manufacturer incentives applied. Lessee responsible for excess wear and tear and mileage over 12,000 miles per year @ .20 per mi. Option to purchase at lease end: 2015 Jetta: $10,340.40; 2015 Passat: $11,637.50; 2015 Golf: $9,971.95; 2015 Tiguan: $16,701. *All manufacturer incentives applied and must finance through VCI Dealer Choice Program. +1 Year or 10,000 Miles of No-Charge Scheduled Maintenance. Whichever occurs first. 2015 models. Some restrictions. See dealer or program for details. Muller VW of Highland Park Care plan includes scheduled maintenance for an additional 24 mos or 20,000 miles on model year 2015 or newer VW vehicles. See VW of Highland Park for details, or for vehicle information, contact 1-800-DriveVW. Dealer not responsible for errors in this advertisement. Offers end 1/31/15

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WE WILL NEVER BE UNDERSOLD!!

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STK # K15083 *MSRP: $18,795*
LYNCH PRICE
$13,565*

2015 CHEVROLET SONIC LS SEDAN
STK # K15225 *MSRP: $15,070*
LYNCH PRICE
$12,295*

2015 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LS FWD
STK # K15175 *MSRP: $25,395*
LYNCH PRICE
$19,415*

2015 CHEVROLET MALIBU 1LS
STK # K15250 *MSRP: $23,490*
LYNCH PRICE
$16,595*

2015 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 4500 REG CAB/LONG BOX W/1LT
STK # K14470 *MSRP: $31,170*
LYNCH PRICE
$25,995*

*All manufacturer rebates and incentives applied, plus tax, title, lic and doc fee. #To qualified buyers with approved credit.
##On select models to current owners of GM vehicle. Offers expire 1/31/15. Dealer will not honor errors in this advertisement.

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On Most 2014/2015 vehicles++

0% APR FINANCING FOR 72 MONTHS!^

NEW 2015 Stk# C24288
Chevrolet Malibu 1LT

MSRP: ~~$24,560~~
Our Price: $16,999*

or

Lease for only $169^ per month for 36 months

NO DOWN PAYMENT

Tax, title, license and doc fees due at lease inception.

NEW 2015 Stk# T25080
Chevrolet Equinox LT

MSRP: ~~$27,670~~
Our Price: $21,191*

or

Lease for only $164^ per month for 24 months

NO DOWN PAYMENT

Tax, title, license and doc fees due at lease inception.

NEW 2015 Stk# T25144
Chevrolet Traverse LT

MSRP: ~~$35,370~~
Our Price: $28,887*

or

Lease for only $249^ per month for 36 months

NO DOWN PAYMENT

Tax, title, license and doc fees due at lease inception.

NEW 2015 Stk# C24456
Chevrolet Cruze LT

MSRP: ~~$20,920~~
Our Price: $15,199*

or

Lease for only $125^ per month for 36 months

NO DOWN PAYMENT

Tax, title, license and doc fees due at lease inception.

NEW 2014 Stk# T25003
Chevrolet Silverado Z71 Crew

MSRP: ~~$40,965~~
Our Price: $35,991*

NEW 2015 Stk# C24558
Chevrolet Sonic LT

MSRP: ~~$24,560~~
Our Price: $13,915*

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All prices listed are plus tax, title, lic & doc fee.*Prices include all manufacturer rebates, plus tax, title, lic & doc fee. ^36 month or 24 month closed end lease to qualified buyers with approved credit. All mfg rebates & incentives applied. Lessee responsible for excess wear and tear and mileage over 10,000 mi per year @ .25 per mi. Option to purchase at lease end: Cruze $12761.20; Malibu $14490.40; Equinox $18931.50; Traverse $21731.85 plus tax, title, lic & doc fee. +0% APR to qualified buyers with approved credit on select years and models. 0% for 72 is $13.88 per $1000 borrowed. #Savings off MSRP includes all manufacturer's rebates and incentives, on select models. MSRP may not reflect actual selling price. Plus,tax,title,lic & doc fees. May not be combined with any other offers. Dealer will not honor errors in this advertisement.++Must show proof of current ownership of a 1999 or newer GM vehicle not compatible with some offers. See dealer for details. Must take delivery by 2/2/15

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2 DAY SALE

THURSDAY 9-9 • FRIDAY 9-9

$10,000 OFF MSRP[2]

0% APR FOR 84 MONTHS[2]

$750 JEEP OWNER LOYALTY BONUS CASH[3]

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GET MORE FOR YOUR TRADE-IN!

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$16,994*

2014 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY #P2627
$20,994*

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'05 Ford Escape 20260A $8,994*
'08 Dodge Durango P14844A $10,994*
'02 Jeep Wrangler P2657, Auto V6, Extra Options . . $11,994*
'12 Fiat 500 20602A, Leather, Panc Roof . . $11,994*
'07 Chevy Trailblazer LT 20304A, LEATHER . $11,994*
'03 Range Rover HSE P2893A, Black . . $12,994*
'09 Dodge Journey 20683A $12,994*
'09 Pontiac G6 GT 20175B, 45k $13,994*
'11 Hyundai Sonata SE 17611B, Leather . . $13,994*
'07 Volvo S60 20327B, AWD, 33k Miles! . . $13,994*
'08 Cadillac CTS P2884A $14,994*
'07 Jeep Commander LTD P2886 . . . $17,994*
'11 Dodge Gr. Caravan R/T 20479A . . $20,994*
'11 Chrysler 300 C 20231B, Certified . . $21,994*
'11 Jeep Gr. Cherokee M2702 . . . $21,994*
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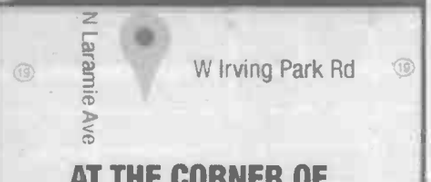

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4 CYL MANUAL, #T50091

$13,995*

$159^ 24 mo lease

NEW 2015 TOYOTA **CAMRY LE**

#T50154

$18,695*

$199^ 24 mo lease

NEW 2014 TOYOTA **PRIUS C**

ONE SDR HB, #T41712

$15,895*

$179^ 36 mo lease

NEW 2015 TOYOTA **RAV4 LE**

#T50583

$20,595*

$199^ 36 mo lease

2015 TOYOTA PRIUS TWO

SAVE $3,951

$21,299*

NEW 2015 TOYOTA SIENNA LE

$289^ 24 mo lease

50 to choose from!

NEW 2014 TOYOTA AVALON LTD

SAVE $7,000*

KIA

NEW 2015 **KIA SOUL**

$129^ 36 mo lease

$12,490*

NEW 2014 KIA RIO LX

$99^ 36 mo lease | $11,852*

NEW 2015 KIA SORENTO

$249^ 24 mo lease | $22,990*

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NEW 2015 **KIA OPTIMA LX**

$175^ 24 mo lease

$16,991*

NEW 2015 KIA SPORTAGE

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2008 TOYOTA YARIS #T42612A, AUTO $6,995*

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2011 TOYOTA RAV4 SPORT #T50205 $15,995*

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'08 Nissan Altima 2.5 S T50251A	$9,495*	'12 Kia Sportage Y10708	$15,995*
'12 Chevy Cruze T50075A	$9,995*	'13 Dodge Challenger SXT T40873A	$19,995*
'08 Scion xD T50171A	$9,995*	'12 Toyota Highlander T41927A	$22,695*
'09 Honda Accord EXL T42430A	$12,995*	'13 Nissan Pathfinder Y10699	$27,995*
'13 Hyundai Elantra Y10706	$13,995*	'13 Toyota Land Cruiser 4WD, T50344A	$57,995*
'12 Toyota Camry LE T41478A	$15,995*	And Many More To Choose From	

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2012 KIA SORENTO #A50124A $15,995*

'07 Kia Sedona A50009A	$7,499*	'09 Kia Borrego EX V6 A50034A	$13,995*
'09 Kia Rondo LX A41124A	$8,995*	'08 Acura TL Type-S A40973A	$16,995*
'11 Kia Rio LX AUTO, A41039A	$8,995*	'09 GMC Acadia G642A	$18,995*
'05 Audi A4 A50100A	$9,995*	'11 Infiniti EX35 G656	$19,995*
'11 Chevy Cruze LT A50223A	$11,495*	'14 Toyota Camry XLE A50048A	$21,995*
'12 Kia Forte EX 5DR, A40813B	$11,995*	AND MANY MORE TO CHOOSE FROM!	

KIA

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SHERMAN Chrysler Jeep Dodge RAM

On the corner of Cicero & Howard In Skokie

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JUST ANNOUNCED $500 BONUS CASH AVAILABLE!

0% APR FOR 84 MONTHS! | 0 Payments for 90 Days! | $0 DOWN!

NEW 2015 JEEP PATRIOT

Tilt steering wheel, Speed control, CD Player, MP3 Decoder & More! Stk#150838

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NEW 2015 RAM 1500

Air conditioning, Speed control, Tilt steering wheel, AM/FM radio, SiriusXM, Radio data system & More! Stk#151557,

MSRP: $26,090

Save $7,000 Off MSRP!

SHERMAN PRICE... $19,090* 20 HWY MPG

NEW 2015 CHRYSLER 200 LIMITED

36 HWY MPG

Call Today for Special New Year Kick-Off Pricing!

NEW 2015 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT

1-touch down, Tilt steering wheel, Air conditioning, Speed control, Illuminated entry, Telescoping steering wheel, Power windows, Overhead console, Remote keyless entry, Wireless phone connectivity, Uconnect w/ Bluetooth®, 1st row LCD monitors & More! Stk#150630, MSRP: $23,990

Save $5,500 Off MSRP!

SHERMAN PRICE... $18,490* 31 HWY MPG

NEW 2015 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT 4X4

Air conditioning, Speed control, Tilt steering wheel, MP3 decoder, CD player, Radio data system, Steering wheel mounted audio controls & More! Stk#150565

MSRP: $31,930

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1-touch down, Tilt steering wheel, Air conditioning, Speed control, Illuminated entry, Telescoping steering wheel, Power windows, Overhead console, Remote keyless entry, MP3 decoder, Steering wheel mounted audio controls, CD player & More! Stk#150472 MSRP: $22,190

$1,000 CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE RAM LOYALTY CASH AVAILABLE!*

Save $5,500 Off MSRP!

SHERMAN PRICE... $16,690* 25 HWY MPG

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NEW 2014 RAM 1500 PROMASTER DIESEL NOW IN STOCK!

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Advanced Airbags, Electronic Stability Control, Electronic Roll Mitigation, Trailer Sway Damping, Tire Pressure Monitoring, ALB, Remote Keyless Entry, A/C, MP3, Power Windows & More! STK#144286, MSRP: $29,750

SHERMAN PRICE... $22,750*

NEW 2014 DODGE CHALLENGER

1-touch down, Tilt steering wheel, Air conditioning, Speed control, Illuminated entry, Telescoping steering wheel, Automatic temperature control, Power windows, Overhead console, Remote keyless entry, Steering wheel mounted audio controls, CD player & More! Stk#143713, MSRP: $27,490

Save $6,500 Off MSRP!

SHERMAN PRICE... $20,990* 27 HWY MPG

NEW 2015 DODGE JOURNEY

Radio data system, MP3 decoder, 1st row LCD monitors, Steering wheel mounted audio controls, CD player, 1-touch down, Tilt steering wheel, Air conditioning, Speed control, Illuminated entry, Front dual zone A/C, Telescoping steering wheel, Power windows, Remote keyless entry & More! Stk#150170

MSRP: $20,990

Save $5,050 Off MSRP!

SHERMAN PRICE... $15,940* 26 HWY MPG

NEW 2015 DODGE DART

34 HWY MPG

Call Today for Special New Year Kick-Off Pricing!

NEW 2014 CHRYSLER 300

1-touch down, Tilt steering wheel, Auto-dimming rearview mirror, Air conditioning, Speed control, Illuminated entry, Front dual zone A/C, Telescoping steering wheel, Automatic temperature control, Power windows, Overhead console, Remote keyless entry, 8.4" LCD, Uconnect w/Bluetooth®, DVD Audio, Steering wheel mounted audio controls, CD player & More! Stk#142599

MSRP: $31,890

Save $9,250 Off MSRP!

SHERMAN PRICE... $22,640* 31 HWY MPG

NEW 2015 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4X4

1-touch down, Tilt steering wheel, Air conditioning, Speed control, Illuminated entry, Rear door bins, Front dual zone A/C, Telescoping steering wheel, Automatic temperature control, Power windows, Remote keyless entry, 1-touch up, Radio data system, Uconnect w/Bluetooth®, MP3 decoder, SiriusXM Radio, 1st row LCD monitors, Steering wheel mounted audio controls & More! Stk#151088

MSRP: $34,490

Save $5,500 Off MSRP!

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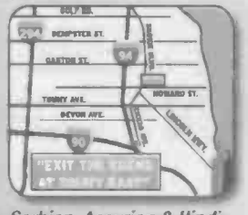

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We are an APPROVED Ally Bank Lease Return Facility – Return Your Vehicle at Sherman Dodge and Receive a $100 BONUS!

WE SERVICE ALL CHRYSLER, JEEP, DODGE & RAM VEHICLES REGARDLESS OF WHERE YOU BOUGHT THEM!

Most offers can not be combined. * All prices plus tax, title, lic. & $166.27 doc. fee, 1) 0%APR for 84 months available on select new models to qualified buyers, must finance thru Ally Bank, in lieu of factory rebate, Financed amount is $11.90/$1000 borrowed. ^Off MSRP on select new models. All applicable factory rebates & incentives applied. MPG based on 2014 EPA estimates; actual mileage may vary. ^^No guarantee of credit given; may require good down payment. +Factory rebate available on select models to qualified buyers. Vehicle availability based at press deadline and all vehicles subject to prior sale. Dealer not liable for typographical errors in this ad. See dealer for terms and conditions. Financing subject to credit approval & insurability. Some may not qualify. Pics may not represent actual vehicle. Offers end 3 days from pub date.

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Evanston Subaru in Skokie

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FAST START 2015

Chicagoland's ONLY Stellar Care Winner 2012 2013 2014

We're doing EVERYTHING to start 2015 with record Subaru sales!
GET OUR LOW PRICE TODAY

ALL-WHEEL-DRIVE PRICE-BREAK

NEW 2015 SUBARU IMPREZA 2.0i

$109 PER MONTH.*

1.49% APR..

Back-up Camera
All Wheel Drive
Bluetooth
Cruise Control

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT! 36 month lease. $2,995 due at signing. FJA-01 #1241

NEW 2015 SUBARU LEGACY 2.5i

$135 PER MONTH.*

1.49% APR..

AUTOMATIC
Back-up Camera
Bluetooth, USB
All Wheel Drive
36 MPG°

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT! 36 month lease. $2,995 due at signing. FAB-01 #10861

NEW 2015 SUBARU FORESTER 2.5i

$158 PER MONTH.*

1.49% APR..

Back-up Camera
All Wheel Drive
Bluetooth, VDC
Flexible Storage
32 MPG

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT! 36 month lease. $2,995 due at signing. FFA-01 #3478

NEW 2015 XV CROSSTREK 2.0i

$175 PER MONTH.*

1.49% APR..

All-Wheel-Drive,
HD Radio, USB
Bluetooth
Back-up Camera

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT! 36 month lease. $2,995 due at signing. FRA-01 #6548

NEW 2015 SUBARU OUTBACK 2.5i

$179 PER MONTH.*

1.49% APR..

AUTOMATIC
Back-up Camera
Bluetooth, USB
All Wheel Drive
33 MPG°

NO SECURITY DEPOSIT! 36 month lease. $2,995 due at signing. FDB-01 #10862

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'12 Honda Odyssey EX-L	Automatic, Leather Sunroof, Silver, 11692A	$25,995
'13 Honda Civic EX	Automatic, Sunroof, Coffee, 11375A	$15,995
'12 Kia Sportage EX	Auto., Rear Camera, Sport Wheels, Sand, 11251B	$15,995
'12 Hyundai Veloster	6 Speed, Ultra Black, 29K, P4690	$13,995
'12 Mazda 3i Sport	Auto., 1-Owner, Full Power, Grey, 11367A	$11,995
'11 VW Jetta SE PZEV	Manual, Leather, 1-Owner, Blue 11500A	$10,995
'09 Toyota Camry Hybrid	Auto., Sunroof, Full Power, Red, 11304A	$10,995
'06 Honda Civic EX	Automatic, Sunroof, 32K, Grey, 11677A	$9,995
'10 Nissan Sentra 2.0 SR	Sunroof, 1-Owner, Auto., Silver, 11344B	$9,995
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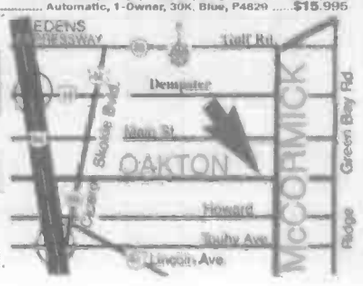

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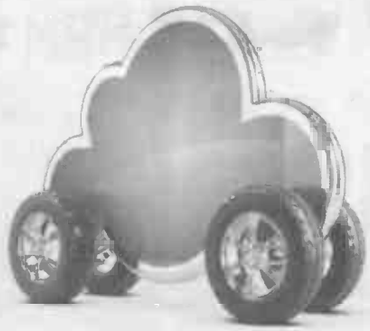

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What Resolution? 4 Ways to Stay on Track After Jan 1

By: Shannon Sweeny

We all have great intentions when it comes to New Year's resolutions.

Nearly half of the country actually makes New Year's resolutions. Commendable, right? But a Statistic Brain survey shows that only eight percent of people actually accomplish their goal.

While resolutions can be hard to keep, making reasonable professional goals and measuring them at specific times throughout the year ☐ whether you decide to finish your projects the day before the deadline, not use Facebook at work or try and be more present in meetings ☐ can make them all the more attainable for more than just the month of January.

Here are a few tips on how to stay out of that eight percent and keep your resolutions going strong throughout the new year.

Don't Keep It a Secret. Share It.

Peer pressure can do wonders for holding you to promises. The more people you tell, the more pressured you'll feel the need to hold yourself to your resolution. Research shows that people who share goals with a friend are 33 percent more successful than those who didn't. Telling other people holds you accountable to not just yourself but to others. This makes your resolution a team effort. With people keeping you on track you have a better chance of success.

Stay Grounded, Don't Focus on Reaching For the Stars

Your success is contingent on whether your resolutions were realistic, which the best ones are. You shouldn't feel pressured to complete an unrealistic resolution for the same reason that you shouldn't ever make one. Resolutions should be something you can actually achieve but will also challenge you. Resolutions are meant for you to better one aspect of your life, but if they are too unattainable, they will just make you feel terrible, which is not the point. Set your goal and make it specific. Try putting aside 15 minutes each workday to catch up on emails instead of "working more efficiently." The more specific, the easier it is to measure your success.

Set Reminders and Checkpoints

Set a calendar reminder either on your computer or on your phone for January 15 and for the first of each following month. One of the biggest problems with keeping resolutions is remembering that you were even trying to. By February 1 you have a million other things to worry about and may have forgotten to focus on your resolution so having that little reminder on your phone or computer will remind you to keep plugging away.

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Tracking your progress and setting mini goals throughout the year is a sure way of motivating yourself.

In this reminder leave yourself a little message like "You have officially stayed focused 100 percent more than you did all last year! Let's keep it going!" These can be helpful if you're feeling a lot less motivated than you were the first week of January. Also, work can pick up a lot after the holidays and you may need some positive reinforcement, even if it sounds silly now.

Be Flexible, Plan For Hiccups Along the Way

Sometimes resolutions aren't as good of an idea as you originally thought. Life unfortunately cannot be planned and sometimes "reading every day on your commute" just isn't possible because now you have so much other work to do that you don't have as much time to read. Do not fret or give up. There is no failure in modifying your resolutions to your new lifestyle. They should still be challenging but constantly modified so that they are attainable.

Resolutions should be a lifestyle change. They shouldn't necessarily have an end so making sure they fit into your life without too much strain is very important.

January 1 isn't the only time of the year to improve on yourself but it can be a time to sit back and really take the time to re-evaluate some aspects of your life. There is never a bad time to do that.

Monster Wants to Know: What are some of your New Year's Resolutions? Are you still on track? Share with us in the comment section.

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Community Events
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Found
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Lost
Personals
Prayers and Novenas

Found

WOODEN JEWELRY BOX found at the intersection of Elmwood & Greenwood in Evanston, October 26th (there is no jewelry in box). Any potential owner should call the Property Office at Evanston PD, 847-866-5029, M-F 9a–4p or leave a message outside of normal hours. Reference case number 14-031616.

JOBS

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NURSING OPEN HOUSE HIRING EVENT
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Southlake Campus Auditorium • 8701 S. Broadway, Merrillville, IN
Refreshments will be served.
RSVP to Candice: 219-886-4551
Please be prepared for an onsite interview, bring copies of your resume, and dress for success.

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Antiques and Collectibles

Tri-City Train Show / Swap Meet
Sun, Feb 1, 8am-Noon.
Roma Lodge, 7130 Highway C, Racine WI. (Hwy 31 North to Hwy C. which is 2 miles past Hwy 20. Take Hwy C West 2 miles to Roma Lodge) All guages of trains & access. Adm $3. I want your old trains & will pay a fair price.
Ron, 262-488-0193

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3:00 – 10:00PM
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Lincoln Park & Beverly Estates, Plus Other Estates & Consignments! Includes: Huge Collection of Waterford Crystal; Lg. Antique Grandfather Clock; Antq. Cylinder Rolltop Desk; Very Old Walnut Dining Table; 9 Pc. Light Wood Chippendale-Style Dining Room Set; Pine Cupboard; Constellation by Evans 1940's Jukebox; Victorian Furniture; George Malhauser for Plycraft Prototype Room Divider; 50's/60's/70's Mid-Century Modern Furniture; Enrique Garcel Lg. Round Table & Chairs w/Matching Sideboard; Decorative Furniture; Collection of Antq. Leaded, Bevelled & Stained Glass Windows; Oriental Rugs - Lg., Small & Runners; Ornate Light Fixtures, Mirrors & Sconces; Antq. Clocks; Bronzes; Fine Oil Paintings, Artwork, Prints & Etchings, some Listed; Russian Icons; Tiffany & Other Sterling Silver Items; Lalique; Royal Copenhagen Nude w/Satyr Figure; 45-Star American Flag; Vintage Trains; Marklin HO Trains; Old Lead Soldiers; Vintage Posters; Decorative Lamps; Musical Instruments; Samsung HDTV; Jewelry, inc. 18K White Gold Necklace, Covered w/Diamonds; 14K White Gold Bracelet w/8 Cttw. Diamonds; 18K White Gold Pendant w/5 Cttw. Diamonds; 18K Ring w/2 Carat Pink Sapphire & Diamonds; 14K White Gold Ring w/4 Carat Sapphire & 1 Cttw. Diamonds; Many Beautiful Gold Rings w/Diamonds,Rubies, Sapphires, etc.; Watches; Pearl Necklaces; Silver Jewelry; Costume Jewelry. Curiosities, Box Lots & More! Appx. 700 Lots to be Sold, Most with No Reserves!

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CHICAGO
NOTICE OF SALE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK
County, Illinois, County Department, Chancery
Division. Brendan Mortgage, Inc. Plaintiff, vs. Zederick Dixon, Deana Dixon, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., Unknown Owners, and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants.
Case No. 13 CH 20538.
Pursuant to a Judgment made and entered by said Court in the above entitled cause on October 7, 2014, Thomas J. Dart, Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois, will on February 19, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 06 of the lower level of the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction the following described premises and real estate mentioned in said Judgment:
P.I.N. 19-26-328-065-0000
Address: 3727 West 77th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60652
Improvements: Single family Residence.
Sale shall be under the following terms: The real estate described herein, with all improvements, fixtures and appurtenances is sold in "as is" condition. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff. Premises will NOT be open for inspection, and Plaintiff makes no representations nor any warranties as to the condition of the property.
There shall be no proration of taxes, assessments, water bills or any other bill that may accrue or has accrued in association with the property.
The deposit required at the time of sale will be between 10% and 25% of the successful bid. The balance of the bid amount is required to be paid with in 24 hours of sale. All payments of the amount bid shall be in certified funds.
The judgment amount is $108,579.85 with accruing post judgment interest and accruing costs.
At any time, if the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser shall have no recourse or claims against the mortgagee's attorney(s). Prospective bidders are to check the court file and verify all information herein and therein.
Sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments, and any liens or encumbrances that have priority.
For information: Scott R. Barfuss. Plaintiff's Attorney, 24 East Avenue., Riverside, IL 60546. Tel. No. (708) 788-4870.
This is an attempt to collect a debt pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #903813

LINCOLNWOOD
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION
Plaintiff,
vs.
JOHN KITOVER, AKA JOHN Z. KITOVER, BANK OF AMERICA, N.A
Defendants,
14 CH 10191
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
Commonly known as 6840 North Lincolnwood Drive, Lincolnwood, IL 60712.
P.I.N. 10-33-231-008.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection
For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611 14-002332
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
Selling Officer, (312) 444-1122
I640535
1/15, 1/22, 1/29/15 #901651

MORTON GROVE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
GUIDANCE RESIDENTIAL LLC
Plaintiff,
-v.-
MUHAMMAD ASLAM, 2004-0000445, LLC, BANK OF AMERICA, NA, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, BMO HARRIS BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Defendants
13 CH 010168
9319 NATIONAL AVENUE MORTON GROVE, IL 60053
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on April 28, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 19, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 9319 NATIONAL AVENUE, MORTON GROVE, IL 60053 Property Index No. 10-18-119-015. The real estate is improved with a single family residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876 Please refer to file number 14-13-03661. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-13-03661 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 13 CH 010168 TJSC#: 35-683 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
I642084
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #905834

MORTON GROVE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION ("FANNIE MAE"), A CORPORATION ORGANIZED AND EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Plaintiff,
-v.-
GUSTAVO DIAZ AKA GUSTAVO DIAZ JR AKA GUSTAVO R DIAZ JR AKA GUSTAVO R DIAZ, BANCO POPULAR, NORTH AMERICA, POPULAR NORTH AMERICA, INC. SBM TO BANCO POPULAR NA, MARISOL DIAZ
Defendants
14 CH 07034
9322 MURRAY COURT MORTON GROVE, IL 60053
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 4, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 5, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 9322 MURRAY COURT, MORTON GROVE, IL 60053 Property Index No. 09-13-102-022, Property Index No. 9-13-102-022-0000. The real estate is improved with a two story single family home; two car attached garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at service.atty-pierce.com. between the hours of 3 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA1402851. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA1402851 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number: 14 CH 07034 TJSC#: 34-20526
I639258
1/8, 1/15, 1/22/15 #900191

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This paper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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South City and Suburbs:
South Suburban Housing Center
708-957-4674

North City and Suburbs:
Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs
847-501-5760

Judicial Sales-Real Est.

NORRIDGE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Plaintiff,
-v.-
JUNE P. SPEAKER A/K/A JUNE PEARL SPEAKER A/K/A JUNE LARSON A/K/A JUNE SPEAKER, ELIZABETH M. FLOOD, AS EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF ROY WARNER, SR., DECEASED, DAVID S. MANN, LESLIE LUTZOW, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS Defendants
11 CH 2563
4608 NORTH ORIOLE AVENUE NORRIDGE, IL 60706
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 2, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on March 3, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 4608 NORTH ORIOLE AVENUE, NORRIDGE, IL 60706 Property Index No. 12-13-224-011. The real estate is improved with a single family residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR , (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at service.atty-pierce.com. between the hours of 3 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA1119976. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA1119976 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number: 11 CH 2563 TJSC#: 34-20776
I642091
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #905832

NORRIDGE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff,
-v.-
NATALIYA LUKASZEWSKI Defendants
12 CH 38594
8119 WEST CHARMAINE ROAD NORRIDGE, IL 60706
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 8, 2013, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 13, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 8119 WEST CHARMAINE ROAD, NORRIDGE, IL 60706 Property Index No. 12-11-403-006-0000. The real estate is improved with a one story single family home with no garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at service.atty-pierce.com. between the hours of 3 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA1220508. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA1220508 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number: 12 CH 38594 TJSC#: 34-20925
I640315
1/15, 1/22, 1/29/15 #901649

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SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff,
-v.-
FELICISIMO M ORIBELLO A/K/A FELICISIMO MENDOZA ORIBELLO, MARLYN T ORIBELLO A/K/A MARLYN TANDOC ORIBELLO A/K/A MARILYN T ORIBELLO, JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A. S/I/I TO BANK ONE, N.A. Defendants
14 CH 11769
9101 LONG AVENUE SKOKIE, IL 60077
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 10, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 24, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 9101 LONG AVENUE, SKOKIE, IL 60077 Property Index No. 10-16-306-060-0000. The real estate is improved with a single family home with an attached garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at service.atty-pierce.com. between the hours of 3 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA1405640. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA1405640 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number: 14 CH 11769 TJSC#: 34-19492
I641778
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #904293

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR BNC MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2006-1, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2006-1;
Plaintiff,
vs.
MADELINE VILLANUEVA AKA MADELEINE M. VILLANUEVA; ADRIAN CADAVILLO AKA ADRIAN C. CADAVILLO; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,
12 CH 31243
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Friday, February 20, 2015 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 10-23-217-059-0000.
Commonly known as 8524 Christiana Avenue, Skokie, IL 60076.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection
For information call The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Freedman Anselmo Lindberg LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563-1890. (630) 453-6960. For Bidding Instructions visit www.fal-illinois.com 24 hours prior to sale. F12070240
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
Selling Officer, (312) 444-1122
I641510
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #904292

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
DORAL MONEY INC;
Plaintiff,
vs.
JEFFREY DAYBROOK AKA JEFFREY DAYBROOK AKA JEFFREY M. DAYBOOK AKA JEFF DAYBOOK ;LISA DAYBOOK AKA LISA J. DAYBOOK AKA LISA J. GLICK DAYBOOK AKA LISA J. GLICK; BENEFICIAL ILLINOIS INC. DBA BENEFICIAL MORTGAGE CO. OF ILLINOIS; NILES TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS CREDIT UNION THE VILLAGE O F SKOKIE; TRANS ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION; EDWARD BURCZY; ERICA BURCZY; RANDOM SHOT PROPERTIES LLC; UNKNOWN OWNERS NONRECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,
12 CH 13745
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause on July 5, 2013, Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Friday, February 20, 2015, at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property:
P.I.N. 10-15-124-046-0000.
Commonly known as 4712 CHURCH STREET UNIT A, SKOKIE, IL 60076.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a townhouse residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act Sale terms: 25% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the premises after confirmation of the sale.
For information: Visit our website at http://service.atty-pierce.com. Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only. Pierce & Associates, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602. Tel.No. (312) 476-5500. Refer to File Number 1129213.
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
Selling Officer, (312) 444-1122
I641505
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #904289

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
CHRISTIANA TRUST, A DIVISION OF WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF RBSHD 2013-1 TRUST;
Plaintiff,
vs.
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF JOHN R. ALLEN; KIM ALLEN; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,
12 CH 25650
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 10-21-328-055-0000.
Commonly known as 5334 Oakton Street, Skokie, IL 60077.
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.
Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection
For information call the Sales Clerk at Plaintiff's Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455 W12-1999.
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
Selling Officer, (312) 444-1122
I641470
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #904287

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
COLFIN BULLS B FINANCE SUB, LLC AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO COLFIN BULLS FUNDING B, LLC, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO MB FINANCIAL BANK NA;
Plaintiff,
vs.
BORO NEDINIC; NEVENKA NEDINIC; CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA) NA; STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DND PLUMBING INC.; FINANCIAL PACIFIC LEASING, LLC; BORO'S SEWER & WATER INC. DBA BORO'S PLUMBING; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendants,
14 CH 5215
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Monday, February 16, 2015, at the hour of 11 a.m. in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, Illinois, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:
Commonly known as 3638 Oakton Street, Skokie, IL 60076.
P.I.N. 10-23-332-036-0000.
The mortgaged real estate is a multi-family residence. The successful purchaser is entitled to possession of the property only. The purchaser may only obtain possession of units within the multi-unit property occupied by individuals named in the order of possession. The property may be made available for inspection by contacting Andrew Yonke at (312) 203-4600.
Sale terms: Bidders must present, at the time of sale, a cashier's or certified check for 10% of the successful bid amount. The balance of the successful bid shall be paid within 24 hours, by similar funds.
For information call Ms. Kristine M. Kolky at Aronberg Goldgehn Davis & Garmisa, 330 North Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611. (312) 828-9600.
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
Selling Officer, (312) 444-1122
I641454
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #904285

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR J.P. MORGAN MORTGAGE ACQUISITION TRUST 2006-HE3, ASSET BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-HE3
Plaintiff,
-v.-
FOZI NASER, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., YELLOWBOOK INC. F/K/A YELLOW BOOK SALES AND DISTRIBUTION COMPANY, INC., ALENA NASER
Defendants
12 CH 004871
7505 KENNETH AVENUE SKOKIE, IL 60076
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 19, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 13, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 7505 KENNETH AVENUE, SKOKIE, IL 60076 Property Index No. 10-27-306-045. The real estate is improved with a single family residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876 Please refer to file number 14-11-34508. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-11-34508 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 12 CH 004871 TJSC#: 35-431 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
I641377
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #904283

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.
Plaintiff,
-v.-
CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF NBD TRUST COMPANY OF ILLINOIS U/T/A DATED 8/14/89 A/K/A TRUST NO. 52719SK, VILLAGE OF SKOKIE, RICHARD LAVERY, ADRIANN LAVERY A/K/A ADRIAN GOLIGHTLY, THOMAS ELLEW, THOMAS ELLEW, AS EXECUTOR, JOHN W. HILLS, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF EDNA LAVERY, UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF THE CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF NBD TRUST COMPANY OF ILLINOIS U/T/A DATED 8/14/89 A/K/A TRUST NO. 52719SK, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendants
10 CH 033729
5337 GREENLEAF STREET SKOKIE, IL 60077
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 21, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 23, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 5337 GREENLEAF STREET, SKOKIE, IL 60077 Property Index No. 10-21-120-034. The real estate is improved with a residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876 Please refer to file number 14-10-19308. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-10-19308 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 10 CH 033729 TJSC#: 34-21318 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
I641312
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #904281

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Judicial Sales-Real Est.

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE RELATING TO CHEVY CHASE FUNDING LLC MORTGAGE BACKED CERTIFICATES SERIES 2006-1
Plaintiff,
-v.-
ALELITA RAMOS AKA ALELITA G RAMOS, FIRST AMERICAN BANK, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendants
13 CH 26278
9325 LOCKWOOD AVENUE
SKOKIE, IL 60077
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 17, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 18, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 9325 LOCKWOOD AVENUE, SKOKIE, IL 60077 Property Index No. 10-16-119-048-0000. The real estate is improved with a brown, brick, single family home; two car detached garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at service.atty-pierce.com. between the hours of 3 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA1313587. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

TO PLACE YOUR GARAGE SALE AD, CALL 847-998-3400

Judicial Sales-Real Est.

PIERCE & ASSOCIATES One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA1313587 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number: 13 CH 26278 TJSC#: 34-20008
I640994
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #904279

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff,
-v.-
JEREMIAH J. WILTGEN, SUSAN NADER WILTGEN A/K/A SUSAN NADER, HARRIS, NA
Defendants
10 CH 054412
5352 GREENLEAF STREET
SKOKIE, IL 60077
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 3, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 10, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 5352 GREENLEAF STREET, SKOKIE, IL 60077 Property Index No. 10-21-116-041. The real estate is improved with a single family residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at service.atty-pierce.com. between the hours of 3 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA1313587. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-10-45204 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 10 CH 054412 TJSC#: 35-27 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
I640638
1/15, 1/22, 1/29/15 #901652

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION
GMAC MORTGAGE, LLC,
Plaintiff
V.
JAMIE LEE,
Defendants
11 CH 15270
Property Address: 5301 Crain Street Skokie, IL 60077
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
Shapiro Kreisman & Associates, LLC file # 11-052336
(It is advised that interested parties consult with their
own attorneys before bidding at mortgage foreclosure sales.)
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered on November 18, 2011, Kallen Realty Services, Inc., as Selling Official will at 12:30 p.m. on February 10, 2015, at 205 W. Randolph Street, Suite 1020, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real property:
Commonly known as 5301 Crain Street, Skokie, IL 60077
Permanent Index No.: 10-21-111-019 & 10-21-111-020
The mortgaged real estate is improved with a dwelling. The property will NOT be open for inspection.
The judgment amount was $309,523.39. Sale terms for non-parties: 10% of successful bid immediately at conclusion of auction, balance by 12:30 p.m. the next business day, both by cashier's checks; and no refunds. The sale shall be subject to general real estate taxes, special taxes, special assessments, special taxes levied, and superior liens, if any. The property is offered "as is," with no express or implied warranties and without any representation as to the quality of title or recourse to Plaintiff. Prospective bidders are admonished to review the court file to verify all information.
For information: Sale Clerk, Shapiro Kreisman & Associates, LLC, Attorney # 42168, 2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301, Bannockburn, Illinois 60015, (847) 291-1717, between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. weekdays only.
I639999
1/15, 1/22, 1/29/15 #901648

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
HOMEBRIDGE FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.
Plaintiff,
-v.-
MAGDALENA MARKOWSKI, KAROL MARKOWSKI, VILLAGE OF SKOKIE
Defendants
14 CH 012724
8734 KIMBALL AVENUE SKOKIE, IL 60076
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 28, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 9, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 8734 KIMBALL AVENUE, SKOKIE, IL 60076 Property Index No. 10-23-203-051. The real estate is improved with a residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876 Please refer to file number 14-14-11545. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-14-11545 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 14 CH 012724 TJSC#: 34-19566 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
I639655
1/8, 1/15, 1/22/15 #900201

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
GREEN TREE SERVICING LLC
Plaintiff,
-v.-
MARVIN TURCHEN, 5220 OAKTON CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION
Defendants
14 CH 010684
5220 OAKTON STREET UNIT #202 SKOKIE, IL 60077
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 8, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 9, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 5220 OAKTON STREET UNIT #202, SKOKIE, IL 60077 Property Index No. 10-21-330-035-1008. The real estate is improved with a condo/townhouse. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876 Please refer to file number 14-14-11495. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 Attorney File No. 14-14-11495 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 14 CH 010684 TJSC#: 34-18365 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
I639567
1/8, 1/15, 1/22/15 #900198

SKOKIE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC
Plaintiff,
-v.-
IBRAIL BENJAMIN, KARDO BENJAMIN
Defendants
10 CH 39418
8014 NORTH KEELER AVENUE
Skokie, IL 60076
NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on November 6, 2014, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 9, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 8014 NORTH KEELER AVENUE, Skokie, IL 60076 Property Index No. 10-22-427-048-0000. The real estate is improved with a brick, single family house; detached 2 car garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information: Visit our website at service.atty-pierce.com. between the hours of 3 and 5 pm. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES, Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300, CHICAGO, IL 60602. Tel No. (312) 476-5500. Please refer to file number PA1022954. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor. Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. PIERCE & ASSOCIATES One North Dearborn Street Suite 1300 CHICAGO, IL 60602 (312) 476-5500 Attorney File No. PA1022954 Attorney Code. 91220 Case Number: 10 CH 39418 TJSC#: 34-20900
I639363
1/8, 1/15, 1/22/15 #900195

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD, CALL 847-998-3400 OR VISIT PIONEERLOCAL.COM/CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL

- Adoption
- Assumed Name
- Auction- Real Estate
- Bid Notice
- Divorce
- Foreclosures
- Foundation Notices
- Judicial Sales
- Mechanics Liens
- Name Change
- Probate
- Public Hearings
- Public Notices
- Storage - Legal
- Take Notices

Assumed Name

ASSUMED NAME
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State," as amended, that a certification was registered by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County. Registration Number: D15140564 on January 9, 2015. Under the Assumed Name of
PARKWEST MEDIA
with the business located at 245 Devon Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60068. The true and real full name(s) and residence address of the owner(s)/partner(s) is: Raymond Lestina, 245 Devon Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60068, USA.
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #904380

ASSUMED NAME
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State," as amended, that a certification was registered by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County. Registration Number: D15140595 on January 12, 2015. Under the Assumed Name of
SANDY'S BAKERY
with the business located at 8971 N. Potter Rd Unit E, Des Plaines, IL 60016. The true and real full name(s) and residence address of the owner(s)/partner(s) is: Tomas Santos, 73 Mariner North, Fox Lake, IL 60020, USA.
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #904071

ASSUMED NAME
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State," as amended, that a certification was registered by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County. Registration Number: D14140469 on December 29, 2014. Under the Assumed Name of
A-HEYSE CLEANING
with the business located at 463 Graceland. Des Plaines, IL 60016. The true and real full name(s) and residence address of the owner(s)/partner(s) is: Russell Green, 463 Graceland. Des Plaines, IL 60016, USA.
1/8, 1/15, 1/22/15 #900136

SAY IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS, CALL 847-998-3400 TO PLACE YOUR AD

Bid Notice

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF PARK RIDGE
INVITATION TO BID
EMERGENCY TORNADO SIRENS REPLACEMENT
PW-FY15-03
The City of Park Ridge will receive sealed bid proposals to replace Emergency Tornado Sirens, in accordance with Specifications and Contract Documents No. FD-FY15-03. Bid documents, including general conditions, statement of work, and forms, may be obtained at Park Ridge City Hall, 1st Floor Cashier, 505 Butler Place, Park Ridge, IL or online at www.parkridge.us. A deposit for the documents is not required.
All general questions regarding this Legal Notice and all detailed questions concerning the actual qualifications document shall be directed to Jim McGuire, Procurement Officer, in writing or e-mail to jmcguire@parkridge.us , no less than five (5) business days prior to the scheduled opening date.
The bid opening will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2015 at 10:00am CST, at Park Ridge City Hall, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. All bids must be received prior to the date and time shown above. Bids transmitted by facsimile (fax) will not be accepted.
Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked in the lower left hand corner: " **DO NOT OPEN - EMERGENCY TORNADO SIRENS REPLACEMENT PW-FY15-03 - BID OPENING: February 17, 2015 - 10:00AM CST. Address the bid to Mr. Jim McGuire, Procurement Officer, City of Park Ridge, 505 Butler Place, Park Ridge, IL 60068.**
1/22/15 #906003

PARK RIDGE PARK DISTRICT
LEGAL NOTICE
Sealed bids will be received by the Park Ridge Park District, 2701 West Sibley Street, Attention: Maryanne Lucarz, Park Ridge, Illinois, for the Prospect Park – Park Development, until Tuesday, February 17, 2015, at 2:00 p.m., at which time such bids will be publicly opened and announced in the Activity Room at the Maine Park Leisure Center of the building located at 2701 West Sibley Street, Park Ridge, Illinois.
Contractor and all Subcontractors shall pay the applicable prevailing wages for all classes of laborers, mechanics and workmen used on the project.
A Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 3, 2015, in Wohler's Hall at the Prospect Park located at 733 N. Prospect Avenue, Park Ridge, Illinois. All Bidders are strongly recommended to attend the Pre-Bid Meeting in order to familiarize themselves with the existing conditions, perform all field measurements and fully understand the nature and scope of the work.
Bid Documents are available through BHFX Digital Imaging location starting January 22, 2015. Bidders can download documents at http://www.bhfx.net. The cost of reproduction is set by BHFX, and the set includes one copy of the drawings and one Project Manual.
Printed copies of Bid Documents are available for pick up by calling 800.540.5048 Ext. 0. There is a cost for reproduction and is non-refundable.
If you have any questions, please call Nanette Powers, Corporate Construction, at 630.271.0500.
Board of Park Commissioners
Mel Thillens, President
1/22/15 #906012

Bid Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT sealed proposals for the design, equipment, and materials to renovate O'Brien Park located at 7260 East Prairie Road Lincolnwood, Illinois 60712, will be received by the Village of Lincolnwood until 12:00 P.M., C.S.T. on Thursday, February 5, 2015 by email at cstachiewics@lwd.org, with the exception of design drawings submitted in a large board format, which will be received at the Village of Lincolnwood Department of Parks and Recreation, located at 6900 N . Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois 60712, attention: Chris Stachewicz. Electronic request for proposal packets will be available beginning on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 by contacting the Village of Lincolnwood at (847) 677-9740.
1/22/15 #905858

Village of Skokie
Notice to Bidders
The Village of Skokie is now accepting sealed BIDS for
Construction Materials Testing & Inspection Services
For Various Village of Skokie Construction Projects
Notice is hereby given that the Village of Skokie will receive BIDS at 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077 Attention: Michael Aleksic, Purchasing Agent until 11:00 a.m. local time on Thursday, February 5, 2015.
Bidders will be required to certify that for all work to be performed pursuant to the Contract Documents, at least the prevailing rate of wages as found and determined by the Illinois Department of Labor for Cook County will be paid to all workers and employees employed and working on the project.
Any bid or proposal submitted unsealed, unsigned, fax transmissions or received subsequent to the aforementioned date and time will be disqualified and returned to the bidder. The Village of Skokie reserves the right to reject any and all bids or parts thereof, to waive any irregularities or informalities in bidding procedures and to award the contract in a manner best serving the interest of the Village.
Skokie Village Hall is a fully accessible building. Persons requiring assistance should contract the Purchasing Office at 847-933-8240 or TTY 673-9330
Michael Aleksic
Purchasing Agent
Village of Skokie
1/22/15 #905945

FIND MORE
LOCAL JOBS
AT
PIONEERLOCAL.COM/MONSTER

Bid Notice

Village of Skokie
Notice to Bidders
The Village of Skokie is now accepting sealed BIDS for
Fire Apparatus Refurbishment
Notice is hereby given that the Village of Skokie will receive BIDS at 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077 Attention: Michael Aleksic, Purchasing Agent until 11:00 a.m. local time on Thursday, February 12, 2015.
A copy of the bid can be obtained by visiting www.skokie-.org. Click on Village Department, Purchasing, Bids & RFP's to download a copy. Bids can also be obtained from the Village of Skokie Purchasing Office at the address shown above.
Any bid or proposal submitted unsealed, unsigned, fax transmissions or received subsequent to the aforementioned date and time will be disqualified and returned to the bidder. The Village of Skokie reserves the right to reject any and all bids or parts thereof, to waive any irregularities or informalities in bidding procedures and to award the contract in a manner best serving the interest of the Village.
Skokie Village Hall is a fully accessible building. Persons requiring assistance should contract the Purchasing Office at 847-933-8240 or TTY 673-9330
Michael Aleksic
Purchasing Agent
Village of Skokie
1/22/15 #905998

Village of Skokie
Notice to Bidders
The Village of Skokie is now accepting sealed BIDS for
Generator Replacement - Fire Station 16
Notice is hereby given that the Village of Skokie will receive BIDS at 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077 Attention: Michael Aleksic, Purchasing Agent until 11:00 a.m. local time on Tuesday, February 10, 2015.
A mandatory site visit will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at Skokie Fire Station 16, 7424 Niles Center Road, Skokie, IL.
Bidders will be required to certify that for all work to be performed pursuant to the Contract Documents, at least the prevailing rate of wages as found and determined by the Illinois Department of Labor for Cook County will be paid to all workers and employees employed and working on the project.
A copy of the proposal can be obtained by visiting www.skokie-.org. Click on Village Departments, Purchasing, Bids & RFP's to download a copy. Proposals can also be obtained from the Village of Skokie Purchasing Office at the address shown above.
Any bid or proposal submitted unsealed, unsigned, fax transmissions or received subsequent to the aforementioned date and time will be disqualified and returned to the bidder. The Village of Skokie reserves the right to reject any and all bids or parts thereof, to waive any irregularities or informalities in bidding procedures and to award the contract in a manner best serving the interest of the Village.
Skokie Village Hall is a fully accessible building. Persons requiring assistance should contract the Purchasing Office at 847-933-8240 or TTY 673-9330
Michael Aleksic
Purchasing Agent
Village of Skokie
1/22/15 #905942

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Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE
THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF MORTON GROVE FOR 2015 WILL BE HELD AT VARIOUS TIMES AND LOCATIONS AS LISTED

	Time	Dates	Location
Advisory Commission on Aging	1:00 pm	2nd Tuesday every month	Civic Center
Appearance Review Commission	7:00 pm	1st Monday of every month	Council Chambers
Board of Environmental Health	7:00 pm	1st Tuesday (every other month beginning in February)	Trustees Conference Room
Community Relations Commission	7:00 pm	2nd Tuesday (every other month)	Trustees Conference Room
Economic Development Commission	5:30 pm	1st Monday, Quarterly (February, May, August, November)	Trustees Conference Room
Fair Housing Commission	Varies	Varies	Varies
Finance Advisory Commission	7:00 pm	Varies	Trustees Conference Room
Fire and Police Commission	1:00 pm	4th Tuesday every month	Fire Station #4
Fire Pension Board	8:00 am	Quarterly - varies	Fire Station #4
Foreign Fire Tax Board	8:00 am	Quarterly - varies	Fire Station #4
Natural Resource Commission	6:00 pm	3rd Monday every month	Trustees Conference Room
Plan Commission	7:30 pm	3rd Monday every month	Council Chambers
Police Pension Board	5:00 pm	Quarterly - varies	Police Station
Traffic Safety Commission	7:00 pm	1st Thursday every month	Council Chambers
Zoning Board of Appeals	7:30 pm	3rd Monday every month	Council Chambers

To ensure full accessibility and equal participation for all interested citizens, individuals with disabilities who plan to attend and who require certain accommodations in order to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of these facilities, are requested to contact Susan or Marlene (847/470-5220) promptly to allow the Village to make reasonable accommodations. 1/22/15 #904849

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Public Notices

Police Officer
Village of Harwood Heights
7300 West Wilson Avenue
Harwood Heights, Illinois 60706
708-867-4353

Population: 8,600
Sworn Officers: 25
Application must be submitted before 5 PM on February 16, 2015
Application non-refundable fee: $25.00
NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE MAILED TO APPLICANTS
The village of Harwood Heights is accepting applications for the position of Police Officer.
Basic Qualifications: At least 21 years of age; less than 35 years of age at the time of application;
US citizen; associate or bachelor's degree (or at least 60 credit hours) in any field from an accredited college or university; must meet all other eligibility requirements as provided by the State Statutes and Village Ordinances; possess a valid driver's license in good standing; have at least 20/70 vision correctable to 20/20; no felony or misdemeanor convictions or arrests; successful completion of Illinois Peace Officer Wellness Evaluation Report (P.O.W.E.R) **Duties and responsibilities:** Full service municipal policing enforcement of state and local laws; prepare written reports on assigned tasks and attend court and testify when necessary; community policing; assist and render aid to citizens; conduct building checks and investigate suspicious persons, vehicle noises, etc.; uniform patrol; traffic control; motor vehicle assists; and traffic crash investigations. **Benefits:** starting salary -$ 47,133 with an opportunity to earn $57,375 after 12 months, and $71,885 after 3 years. Employer paid pension fund, sick/vacation days. Medical/life/vision insurance is offered. **Application process:** Applications may be downloaded from the Village of Harwood Heights website: www.harwoodheights.org and returned to the Harwood Heights Police Department located at 7300 West Wilson, Harwood Heights, Illinois 60706 (708-867-4353) any time day or night. . Applications must be returned by Monday, February 16th at 5:00 PM. Attending orientation is **MANDATORY** and will be held on Monday, February 23rd at the Village of Harwood Heights Community room which is also located at 7300 West Wilson, Harwood Heights, Illinois. Doors will open at 6:00 PM and will close promptly at 7:00 PM, after which no one will be allowed entrance. Questions should be directed to the Village of Harwood Heights Police Commission between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM (708-867-4353.) The Village of Harwood Heights is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
By order of the Harwood Heights Police & Fire Commission: Steve J Wyda, Chairman; Dorothy A. Ayres, Secretary; Savino Nuccio D'Argento, Commissioner
APPLICATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON-LINE THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 THRU THURSDAY, FEBRUAY 5, 2015.
1/22, 1/29/15 #900597

Foreclosures

CHICAGO
NOTICE OF SALE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK
County, Illinois, County Department, Chancery
Division. Brendan Mortgage, Inc. Plaintiff, vs. Zederick Dixon, Deana Dixon, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., Unknown Owners, and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants.
Case No. 13 CH 20538.
Pursuant to a Judgment made and entered by said Court in the above entitled cause on October 7, 2014, Thomas J. Dart, Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois, will on February 19, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 06 of the lower level of the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction the following described premises and real estate mentioned in said Judgment:
LOT 11 AND THE EAST 11.66 FEET OF LOT 12 IN BLOCK 32 IN PRICE'S SUBDIVISION OF THE SOUTHWEST ¼ OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 38 NORTH, RANGE 13, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
P.I.N. 19-26-328-065-0000
Address: 3727 West 77th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60652
Improvements: Single family Residence.
Sale shall be under the following terms: The real estate described herein, with all improvements, fixtures and appurtenances is sold in "as is" condition. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff. Premises will NOT be open for inspection, and Plaintiff makes no representations nor any warranties as to the condition of the property.
There shall be no prorations of taxes, assessments, water bills or any other bill that may accrue or has accrued in association with the property.
The deposit required at the time of sale will be between 10% and 25% of the successful bid. The balance of the bid amount is required to be paid with in 24 hours of sale. All payments of the amount bid shall be in certified funds.
The judgment amount is $108,579.85 with accruing post judgment interest and accruing costs.
At any time, if the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser shall have no recourse or claims against the mortgagee's attorney(s). Prospective bidders are to check the court file and verify all information herein and therein.
Sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments, and any liens or encumbrances that have priority.
For information: Scott R. Bartuss, Plaintiff's Attorney, 24 East Avenue,, Riverside, IL 60546. Tel. No. (708) 788-4870.
This is an attempt to collect a debt pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #903813

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Probate

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF EDWARD M. REHM, DECEASED.
No.14 P 1157
CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE is given of the death of EDWARD M. REHM of Mundelein, Lake County, Illinois. Letters Testamentary were issued on December 29, 2014, to WILLIE E. REHM of 14334 Hammerstone Lane, Hudson, Florida 34669, whose attorney is SHAW LAW LTD., of 33 North County Street, Suite 300, Waukegan, Lake County, Illinois 60085.
CLAIMS against the ESTATE OF EDWARD M. REHM, DECEASED, may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Lake County, Park City Branch Court, 301 South Greenleaf Avenue, in the City of Park City, Illinois, or with Executor WILLIE E. REHM, or both. Any claims must be filed on or before July 15, 2015, which is not less than six months from the date of first publication of this NOTICE. Any claim not filed within that time period is barred. Copies of any claim filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court must be mailed or delivered to the Executor, and to their attorneys within ten days after they are filed.
Respectfully submitted,
THE ESTATE OF
EDWARD M. REHM,
DECEASED
By: /s/Lori Weiss Berdenis, Esq.
One of Its Attorneys
Prepared By:
Mark L. Shaw (06198478)
Lori Weiss Berdenis (6212304)
SHAW LAW LTD. (351635)
33 North County Street
Suite 300
Waukegan, Illinois 60085
T: (847) 244-4696
F: (847) 244-4673
E: mlshaw@shawlawltd.com
1/15, 1/22, 1/29/15 #901442

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Probate

State of Illinois
In The Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois
Probate Division
In the matter of the estate of Evangeline Farmakis, (Deceased)
Case No. 2014 P 007102
Publication Notice
Notice is given in the death of Evangeline Farmakis of Chicago, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on December 29, 2014 to James Farmakis, whose attorney is Jory Chelin, 1454 Miner, Des Plaines, Illinois 60016 email address jory.chelin@yahoo.com.
Notice to Heirs and Legatees
Notice is given to unknown heirs who are the heirs or legatees in the above entitled proceeding to probate a will and whose name or address is not stated.
Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission or from the date of the first publication of this notice, you may file a petition with the court to require proof of the will by testimony of the witness to the will in open court or other evidence, as provided in 5/6-21 of the Probate Act of 1975 (ILCS 1992, 755, 5/6-21).
You also have the right under 5/8-1 of the Probate Act (ILCS 1992, 755, 5/8-1) to contest the validity of the will by filing a petition with the court within six (6) months after admission of the will to probate.
The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (ILCS 1992, 755, 5/28-4). Any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk on or before July 22, 2015, which date is not less than six (6) months from the date of the first publication of the notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Any questions or petitions should be directed to Jory Chelin (847) 827-2700, as attorney for the estate.
1/22, 1/29, 2/5/15 #904560

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE
If you live in Niles Township and have a child in grades K-8 who is home-schooled or attends a private school and you are concerned about their educational growth and development, please contact Niles Township District for Special Education, Tarin Kendrick, Executive Director, PH: 847-965-9040, 8701 Menard, Morton Grove, IL 60053.
12/18/14 #904392

The North Cook County Soil & Water Conservation District
NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION
To all owners and occupiers of lands lying within the boundaries of the North Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District: A General Election will be in held February 12, 2015 (7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) in the District office 2358 Hassell Road, Suite B, Hoffman Estates. Two Directors will be elected to serve two year terms on the Board of Directors. Directors perform on a voluntary basis. This is NOT a salary position. Nominations from the floor will not be accepted. All persons, firms, or corporations who hold legal title or possession of land lying within the District are eligible to vote, whether as lessee, renter, tenant or otherwise. Only such persons, firms or corporations are eligible to vote. Absentee ballots will be available for casting in the District office F Jan. 29th - Feb. 11th. Call for details 847-885-8830/www.northcookswcd.org
James Singer, Chairman
1/2015
1/22/15 #904253

Public Hearings

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Skokie Zoning Board of Appeals, Wednesday, February 18, 2015, Village of Skokie, 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077, at 7:30 P.M., to consider the following:
NEW
2015-1Z - 89 Salem Lane
Humberto Vergara M.D. and Karen Vergara, as beneficiaries of Bank of Northern Illinois Trust # 3426, request a variance in order to construct a 2nd floor addition resulting in the continuation of the existing 4.60-4.67-foot south side yard and 1 off-street parking space rather than 6.0-foot side yard and 2 off-street parking spaces minimum as required by Sections 118-111(6)(a), 118-201(3), and 118-218(1) of the Zoning Chapter of the Skokie Village Code in an R1 Single-Family district.
PIN: 10-14-206-048-0000
2015-2Z - 4232 Dempster Street
Shore Community Services Inc., on behalf of Zacharais Sexual Abuse Center, requests a variance in order to operate a clinic or outpatient care center (counseling center) resulting in a parking deficit of 8 spaces, 20 spaces required with 12 spaces provided, as required by Sections 118-201(3) and 118-218(4) of the Zoning Chapter of the Skokie Village Code in a B2 Commercial district.
PINs: 10-15-430-030-0000, 10-15-430-031-0000, 10-15-430-032-0000, 10-15-430-033-0000, 10-15-430-034-0000
FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Plans and related documents are available at the Village's Community Development Department, Planning Division (847) 933-8447 Monday through Friday, from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 PM
SPECIAL AID: Available upon request for the disabled. Call (847) 673-0500 or TDD (847) 933-8455.
Interested parties are invited to attend this meeting. This notice is for information purposes only.
Published in the Skokie Review on January 22, 2015.
Brian L. O'Donnell, Chairman
1/22/15 #905867

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the Planning and Zoning Commission on Tuesday, February 10, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of Park Ridge City Hall, 505 Butler Place, Park Ridge, Illinois, when the following matter will be considered:
Zoning Case Number
MA-15-01:
Application by TCF National Bank for a map amendment to the Zoning Map of the City of Park Ridge to change the existing zoning from the B-1 Retail & Office District to the B-2 General Commercial District, in accordance with Section 4.8 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Park Ridge, for the property commonly known as:
1 West Devon Avenue, Park Ridge, Illinois.
All persons interested in the above described matter are invited to attend and will be heard.
The case file for this matter is available for review in the Department of Community Preservation and Development at City Hall.
Joe Baldi, Chairman
Planning and Zoning Commission
1/22/15 #902807

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Storage - Legal

LifeStorage of Montclare will hold a Public Sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act.
Illinois Code 770-ILCS 95/7 on or after Wednesday, February 11,2015.
Location: LifeStorage of Montclare, at 6603 W Diversey Ave. Chicago, Illinois 60707 (773)237-3030.
Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from the sale. The contents of the below spaces will be sold at a public sale for cash or credit card. If there is no market value or no bids received, the goods will be disposed.
Registered or Motor Vehicles are sold "AS IS / Parts Only" no titles or registration.

Tenant Name	Unit Number
Ramona M Romero	A1147
Robin McLendon	A2104
Kiril Dimitrov	A2128
John Tan	B1119
Ruby Villareals	B1151
Anna Perez	B2112
Jose Martinez	B2126
MG Tax Service	B2130
Sylvia C Arroyo	B2176
Shavon Watts	C1117
Roberto Vazquez Jr.	C1184
Nicole Wiebort	C2104
Anabel Pacheco	C2148
Laura Horwitz	C2161
Elizabeth Correa	C2177
Marisol Burgos	C2208
Adrian Santana	D2116
Alejandro Garcia	D2133
Bianca B. Gomez	D2137
Jairo Duran	D2219

1/22, 1/29/15 #905967

Life Storage of Wrigleyville will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Illinois Code 770 ILCS 95/1 to 95/7, on or after Tuesday, February 10, 2015, at Life Storage of Wrigleyville, 3323 West Addison Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60618. Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only," no titles or registration.

Tenant Name	Unit #
Michelle L Stayduhar	1024
Walid R Halit	1145
William Thurm	1145
Joseph Krueger	1226
Lirie Ramadani	2066
Maria Silva	3111
Ismael M Martin	3123
Duane Mangahas	3182
Dyane Howard	3199
Deborah Witter	4182

You must be 18 years of age, or older to attend our auctions.
Auctioneer; Brook Snyder Illinois license # 441.001668
1/22, 1/29/15 #905842

LifeStorage of Rogers Park will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Illinois Code 770 ILCS 95/1 to 95/7, on or after February 11th, 2015, at LifeStorage of Rogers Park, 7524 N. Paulina St. Chicago, Illinois, 60626. (773) 381-1417
Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only," no titles or registration.

Tenant Name:	Unit #
Christian E. Francis	L41
Lonnie F. Lovejoy	L39
Candace Prudik	990
Owen Leroy, c/o DigiWorld	984
Ishman Finister	962
Atreener Drain	952
Albert C. McDonald	912
Paris S. Evans	877
Mary A. Hicks	848
Anthony S. Robinson	813
William S. Smith Jr.	800
Demetrius A. Mabry	725
Vichitra Moopeung	632
Richard Foster	616
Dion Lane	571
Lesley Kadiry	543
Jameela Flowers	499
Nicole Cattouse	466
Dawn Hanks	427

Storage - Legal

Delroy Mangel	390
Heather Anthony	342
Marcus D. Robinson	305
Kyle Batson	225
Debra L. Crestoni	224
Ari-El Talley	219
Justen Bartels	217
Jasmine Zarei	136

1/22, 1/29/15 #905080

Life Storage Centers of the Southwest Loop will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Illinois Code 770 ILCS 95/1 to 95/7, on Tuesday, February 10, 2015, at Life Storage Centers of the Southwest Loop, 601 W. Harrison St., Chicago, IL, 60607 (312) -360-1153
Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only," no titles or registration.

Tenant Name	Unit #
Grabriela Banrio	150
Cordell Willis	206
Geneva Bell	219
Amy H Seely	230
Marilyn Miller	402
Mathew T Carroll	616
Betty Davis	681
Crystal L Dorbin	689
Curtis Hollingworth	746
Gwen Woolridge	789
Meta Hamilton	1013
Daron L Young	1077B
Jeshua D Bryant	1079A
Eric G Peebles	1101

1/22, 1/29/15 #904698

LifeStorage of Lincoln Park will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Illinois Code 770 ILCS (1-22-15 and 1-29-15) on (2-10-15), at Life Storage of Lincoln Park, 1030 W. North Ave. Chicago, Illinois, 60642. (312) 397-1074
Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only," no titles or registration.

Tenant Name:	Unit #
Michael Harris	0188
Jennifer Richter	0253
Thomas H Hilligoss	1095
Daniel Welch	1125
William A Moorehead III	1207
Mehryar M Elahi	2078
Mark D Aiura	2111
Samuel E Heller	4007

1/22, 1/29/15 #904568

Life Storage Centers of Hermosa will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act Illinois Code 770 ILCS 95/1 to 95/7, on February 11, 2015 at Life Storage Centers of Hermosa, 4500 W. Grand Ave. Chicago, IL 60639. Phone number is 773-235-8452
Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is/Parts Only" no titles or registration.

Unit	Tenant Name
682	Candace Taylor
438	Jacqueline Crosby
671	Jonathan Sturdevant
670	Raphael Fitzpatrick
460	Alina Ruiz
742	Chiniec Morris
261	Matt Castillo
176	Joseph C Glenn
639	Fidela Montes DeOca
707	Shonic Puckett
239	Gurdhian Singh
782	Eloit Echenique
472	Mildred Maldonado
077	Sara Roman
120	Deborah Davis
192	Ann M DeLaughter
655	Sonia Garcia
072	Sonia Garcia
018	Emmanuel B Jones
097	Carlos I Sandoval
441	Nilda Santiago
047	Deidra Scott
064	FreddieMae Simmons
493	Earnestine Thomas

Storage - Legal

616	Sabrina White
301	Ricardo Castro
098	Jacqueline Crosby
339	Carmela Gonzalez
613	Jessica Gabriel
574	Jennifer Sanchez

1/22, 1/29/15 #903143

Notice of Auction
Life Storage Centers of River North will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facilities Act, Illinois Code 770 ILCS to 95/7, on or after February 10th, at Life Storage of River North, 333 West Ohio Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60654. Phone: 312-222-0136
Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only." No titles or registration.

Tenant Name	Unit #
Thomas Hilligos	2003;2004;2005;2047
David Widerhorn	3051
Amber Thrall	184
Janet Barnes-Davis	2059

1/22, 1/29/15 #904741

Notice of Auction
Life Storage Centers of West Loop will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facilities Act, Illinois Code 770 ILCS to 95/7, on February 10th 2015, at Life Storage of West Loop, 1205 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois, 60607. Phone: 312-421-4129
Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only." No titles or registration.

Tenant Name	Unit #
Mia Walker	3014
Neashell Gayden	4085
Natalie Oliver	3127
Steve Racz	5008
Krista Grant	2081
Zolottie Bowling	3120

1/22, 1/29/15 #904357

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Illinois Self-Storage Facilities Act, a sale will be held on February 11th, 2015, at LifeStorage of Portage Park, 6500 West Dakin Street, Chicago, IL 60634 (773) 282-2400. The contents of the below spaces will be sold at a public sale for cash, credit card or certified funds. If there is no market value or no bids received, the goods will be otherwise disposed of.
Maria G Osses-Rivera
Unit #: C2107
Scott Harris
Unit #: B2187
Blanca L Archabala
Unit #: B2124
Pamela Kimmel
Unit #: B1134
Javannis Diaz
Unit #: A1140
Anna Matlak
Unit #: C1133
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905470 1/22 1/29/2015

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Trend

Northlight Theatre celebrates 40 years

SOCIAL STUDIES
BY LEE LITAS

The event: Underscoring its status as a beacon of artistry on the North Shore, Northlight Theatre staged its 40th anniversary celebration on Dec. 11 with music. The rousing performance featured E. Faye Butler and composer/lyricist Jason Robert Brown, who brought down the house by giving 250 guests a taste of that ol' Broadway magic that won him his Tony Awards.

Over its 40 seasons, Northlight has mounted nearly 200 productions, 40 of them world premieres; earned 157 Joseph Jefferson award nominations; and won 28 awards. Part of its mission is to champion new work.

Cause célèbre: "It's not every day that a theater company turns 40," said Executive Director Timothy Evans of Evanston. "That speaks to our longevity and our ability to please our audiences."

More than 85 percent of Northlight's 6,000 subscribers renew each year. The theater stages five productions annually comprising classics, musicals and at least one original work.

In 2001, one of those new works came from Jason Robert Brown. His play, "The Last Five Years," premiered at Northlight before going on to success on Broadway, off-Broadway. In 2015, the play became a major motion picture.

"I'd be here any day to celebrate Northlight," said Brown. "Bringing the kind of theater they do into this part of Chicago makes all the difference in the world."

As for Northlight vs. Broadway, Brown had this to say: "Everybody here is top-notch: actors, directors and top-notch pieces. The only difference is it doesn't cost $180 to see it."

The sentiment was echoed by Daniel Peterson of Glenview, Northlight board president.

"Some of the best theater you'll see in the nation performs right here in Northlight, bringing new, innovative, creative plays as well as reviving classic plays right here on the North Shore."

Bottom line: The benefit raised $50,000 for Northlight's programming.

Anne and Greg Taubeneck of Wilmette, subscribers | PHOTOS LEE A. LITAS/FOR PIONEER PRESS

Kirk Hoopingarner of Evanston and Peter Hemwall, formerly of Evanston, representing sponsor Romano Wealth Management

Carol and Steve Mullins of Evanston, former board chairman

Artistic director BJ Jones of Evanston, Tony Award winner/composer/lyricist Jason Robert Brown, and executive director Timothy J. Evans of Evanston

Keely Jones, originally of Evanston, and Trimmy Stamell of Evanston, past board chairman

Marcia Mead Stillerman, Paula Hays and Julie Chernoff, all of Evanston

Lloyd and Monica Cassidy of Glenview, 10-year subscribers

CAUSE & EVENT

2014 THANKS FOR GIVING GALA

Benefiting: Concern World Wide emergency response programs that help refugees in South Sudan

Location: Wit Hotel, Chicago

Attended: 230

Raised: $75,000

Website: concernusa.org

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Heidi and Greg Berke of Glenview

Laura and Dan McShane of Glenview

Francis and Judith Kirby of Lake Forest

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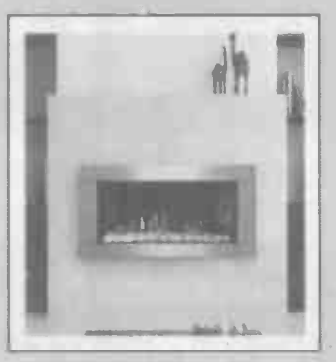

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CAUSE & EVENT

Flashes of Hope luncheon bags $110,000 to fight pediatric cancer

BAG LADY LUNCHEON

Sponsored by: Flashes of Hope Chicago Chapter

Benefiting: Pediatric cancer research and children fighting cancer. Every year, Flashes of Hope provides free portrait packages to 7,000 children in 55 cities across the country to help the kids to see themselves in a new light.

Location: Skokie Country Club, Glencoe

Performer: Diana Greiner of Wilmette

Attended: 300+

Raised: $110,000

Date: Nov. 12

Website: flashesofhope.org

Diana Greiner, Flashes of Hope kid and New Trier High School student from Wilmette, sang "With a Song and a Smile."

Allison Clarke, Flashes of Hope founder, Dr. Paul Kent, pediatric oncologist at Rush Children's Hospital, and Barrie Dekker of Wilmette, Flashes of Hope, Chicago Chapter director | PHOTOS BY ANDRE LACOUR

Julia Hauldren and Joanne Fischer, both of Northfield

Maggie Reynolds and Heather Penn, both of Glenview

Tiffany Erickson and Megan Oxley, both of Wilmette

Karla Brewer, Joan Malliband and Liz Watson, all from Kenilworth

Suzanne Bunge of Wilmette, Mary Hess of Lake Forest, Betsy Brint of Highland Park and Julie Backer of Winnetka

Get your event in Trend

Have a fundraiser, charity event or nonprofit news to share? Email pioneertrend@gmail.com for guidelines on submitting preview information and photos for Trend.

Go

Northlight's 'White Guy on the Bus' sparks crucial conversation

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
For Pioneer Press

Why does a "White Guy on the Bus" decide to strike up a conversation with a black single mom? "Part of it is sort of a mystery," declared actor Francis Guinan who plays Ray, the title character, in the world premiere of Bruce Graham's play at Northlight Theatre under Artistic Director B. J. Jones' direction.

When Ray initially strikes up a conversation with Shatique (Patrese D. McClain), he gives the impression that "he's simply a friendly white guy in his 60s," Guinan said. "She's a little surprised that he's breaking into her privacy but he seems very pleasant."

"Shatique is a hardworking single mom who just wants the best for her family," McClain said. "She hasn't been necessarily dealt the best hand of cards but she's doing what she can with what she has — and she's doing it all for her son."

Shatique, whom McClain described as "a loner," is surprised when Ray begins talking to her but she speaks with him because "she's not rude," McClain said. "That's why he succeeds in breaking down that wall that we all have when we're on a bus and someone starts talking to you."

The two ride the same bus every Saturday so their conversations evolve.

"It's a break from the monotony of every day," McClain said.

"It's intriguing to find what's going on," Guinan said of their interchanges. "He's very open about what he seems to be doing on the bus. It isn't until later on that she discovers exactly what he wants from her — which is a bit more sinister."

Jones has a long connection with playwright Graham. "He has a number of plays that are topical and edgy and in-your-face," the director said. Northlight's production of Graham's "Outgoing Tide" won a Jeff Award. Their production of "Stella and Lou" was critically acclaimed.

In terms of "White Guy on the Bus," Jones admitted, "It is challenging. I know it invites conversation — which I think is important right now."

Francis Guinan and Patrese D. McClain

The play has become even more timely than it was when Jones chose it. "Ferguson was not on the horizon or Staten Island or Cleveland," he noted. "That timeliness is serendipity but the truth is that the conversation should always be on the front burner."

He described the structure of the play as "theatrically surprising" because scenes are not in chronological order.

"This show is a perfect social response to all of the racial and social/economic clashes that we're having in our country right now," McClain said. "It is so timely and appropriate. It really does ask the question, 'What lives matter in this country?' "

Guinan concluded that one of the most interesting aspects of the play is that the way Graham wrote it, "You really can't tell whose side he's on — what his position is exactly politically or racially because he comes from such a character-specific point of view. It's a real test for the audience. You can't help but think about what your own position is."

"To see a show and experience art that makes you feel, that is when you can start to have a dialogue," McClain added. "It makes you feel something on a visceral level instead of preaching or protesting at you."

'WHITE GUY ON THE BUS'
Northlight Theatre, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd.

7:30 p.m. Tuesdays (except Feb. 3, 10 and 24), 1 p.m. (except Feb. 11) and 7:30 p.m. (except Feb. 18) Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m. (except opening on Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m.) Fridays, 2:30 p.m. (except Jan.24) and 8 p.m. Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. (except. Feb. 1 and 8) Sundays, Jan.30-Feb. 28; previews are Jan. 23-29

$25-$78; previews are $25-$54

(847) 673-6300; northlight.org

Wilmette native, Disney Channel star to greet fans

BY SHERYL DEVORE
For Pioneer Press

Steve and Leslie Curda of Wilmette never starred in a musical, play, movie or TV show. But all five of their children have been appearing on stage and television since they were youngsters.

Seventeen-year-old Piper Curda currently portrays Jasmine, a high school sophomore fashionista, in the Disney Channel's "I Didn't Do It" TV series.

Piper will be in Chicago at the Patio Theater Jan. 24 to interact with her fans and other Disney stars at the "Tween Stars Live Show," where she'll do skits on stage with the audience. She also just finished filming the latest "Teen Beach" movie.

It appears Piper is going places, but with guidance from her parents, she's keeping it in perspective. Piper gets good grades and is involved with the youth ministry group at Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington.

Still, the call to act runs deep in Piper, who is earning her high school diploma online.

Disney Channel fans may be familiar with Piper in her starring role as Casey in the Disney.com series, "Rule the Mix," as well as her recurring role as Kennedy Van Buren on "A.N.T. Farm." She's also guest-starred on television shows such as "Rizzoli and Isles" and "Law & Order SVU."

Piper, who is completing filming the second season of "I Didn't Do It" in L.A., said she can reveal one tidbit about what's coming.

"In Season 1, you find out Jasmine has a crush on Logan," Piper said. "They will definitely explore that more in Season 2."

Piper likes to say she knew she wanted to perform "from the moment I came out of the womb. I always loved being the center of attention and performing and making people laugh."

When she was 8, Piper and her sister, Riley Chai, now studying music therapy in Boston, auditioned for a part in "The King and I" at Drury Lane Theatre in Oak Brook.

They both got parts as "little princes and princesses," Piper said. "I loved being in front of an audience every night. That solidified for me that I was definitely going to do this for the rest of my life."

After that, her parents signed her up for voice lessons and found her an agent, and she started getting gigs including appearing in a commercial that would be aired on the Disney Channel.

Piper travels back and forth from Wilmette to L.A. and New York to follow her career. Her parents do the same, in between their work in the Chicago area.

"It can be difficult at times," she said. "I think about it in the way — this is what I want to be doing and I have to make those sacrifices. Maybe I can't be with some of my friends all the time. Over New Year's, I did come back (to Wilmette) to see all my friends."

Piper's younger brother Major has appeared in shows such as the movie "White Frog" in 2012. Her younger sister Glory recently performed in "The Jungle Book," and their youngest sibling, Saylor, plays a younger version of Piper's character, Jasmine, on "I Didn't Do it," whenever the script calls for a flashback.

Piper Curda of Wilmette, who stars in Disney Channel's "I Didn't Do It," will appear at the Patio Theater Jan. 24.

'TWEEN STARS LIVE'
3 p.m. Jan. 24
Patio Theater, 6008 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago
TweenStarsLiveTour.com

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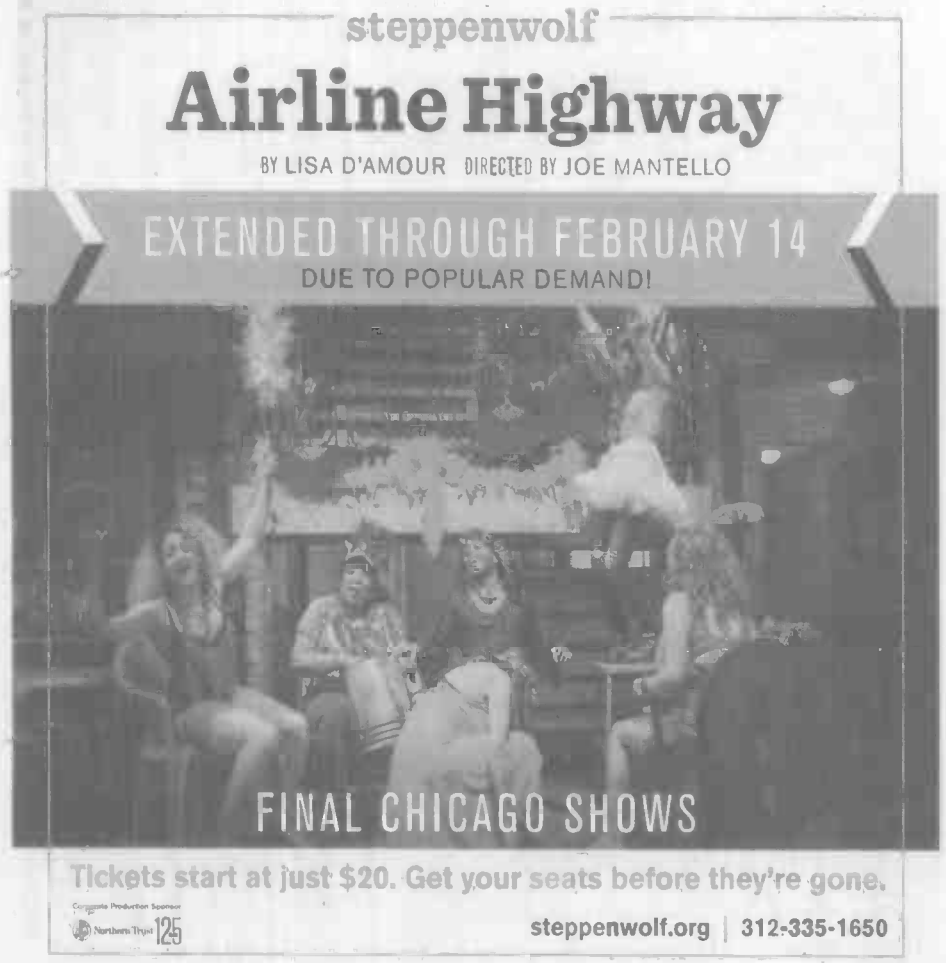

Family Friendly

Top Row (L to R): Lizzy Brodsky (production assistant), Vanesa Hoxha, Kellie Rohrer, Zoe Shiman, Lexi Lee, Lily Gussis, Henry Gussis, Emili Hoxha, Debbi Brodsky (producer). Middle Row: Vasi Garbis, Anton Tomacic, Jabarie McCoy, Sara Lohan. Front Row: Alexia Housakos, Shannon Ber.

Laughs and lessons in family friendly 'Legally Blonde Jr.'

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
For Pioneer Press

Being true to yourself never goes out of style. That's the message of "Legally Blond Jr.," reported Debbi Brodsky, producer of the Broadway, Our Way! production of the musical, 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 23-25, at the Skokie Theatre, 7924 Lincoln Ave.

"We were looking for a show that would be appealing to some of the older kids that we've been working with, and also to attract some new older kids," said Brodsky about staging the production.

The musical features 14 fifth-through-ninth-graders and is based on the popular film.

Brodsky believes this show will appeal to kids in second grade through adults. "It's very lively, there's a lot of action and a lot of fun songs," she said. The junior version omits anything that would be inappropriate for a family audience.

"It's empowering for kids of all ages," Brodsky concluded.

Tickets are $15.

For details, call (847) 677-7761 or go to skokietheatre.com.

CAN HE DO IT?

A human boy, who was raised by trash-collecting trolls, tries to save them from a pest exterminator in "The Boxtrolls." The 97-minute PG-rated film will be screened at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24 at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. A snack will be served.

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

FELINE GROOVY

Your kids will hear stories about the Cat in the Hat and then meet the beloved Seuss character at a special storytime, 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25 at Barnes & Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. Bring a camera because the pussy cat likes to pose with kids.

For details, call (847) 676-2230 or go to www.barnesandnoble.com.

WHEN WILL WINTER WANE?

You'll learn about being an "authority" at prediction during Groundhog Day, 6-7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 2 at Wildwood Nature Center, 529 Forestview Ave., Park Ridge. Your family will hear about groundhogs and shadows, and meet prairie dogs, the cousins of groundhogs. Cost is $12 per family.

For details, call (847) 692-3570 or go to www.prparks.org.

CREATE CARDS

Library staff will help kids and adults create unique, custom-made cards at Greeting Card Extravaganza for All Ages, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24 in the Baxter Room at Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave. Novices to seasoned crafters will use stamps, cutouts, light-up stickers and more at this drop-in event.

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

Movie Review

Paddington the Bear and Hugh Bonneville in a scene from "Paddington." | AP PHOTO

Delightful 'Paddington' stuffed full of charm

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Film Critic

'PADDINGTON'
★★★ 1/2

A remarkably old-fashioned film considering the advanced technology required to make it, the sweet, whimsical and delightful "Paddington" is a children's movie that's easy to savor, even if you're not in its diminutive target audience.

The climactic action scenes may be a bit too raucous — and the threatened violence a bit too horrific — for very young kids but, otherwise, it's a marvel of imaginative, intelligent charm.

Based on the adventures of the walking, talking Teddy bear created by author Michael Bond, the film opens with a vintage newsreel detailing the adventures of a British explorer who discovers a lost species of talking bear deep in the jungles "of darkest Peru." After leaving the bears with an abiding love of marmalade and his floppy red hat as a memento, the explorer tells them they will always be welcome in London if they ever choose to visit. And Aunt Lucy (Imelda Staunton) decides to take him up on that offer 40 years later after an earthquake destroys their home — depositing young Paddington in the lifeboat of a London-bound ship with a note reading "Please look after this bear. Thank you."

Paddington (voiced with slightly befuddled innocence by Ben Whishaw), Aunt Lucy and his Uncle Pastuzo (Michael Gambon) are all CGI-animated, by the way, and seamlessly integrated into an otherwise live-action cast. It's a wonderful cast as well, featuring Hugh Bonneville ("Downton Abbey") and Sally Hawkins ("Blue Jasmine") as Mr. and Mrs. Brown, Julie Walters as their housekeeper Mrs. Bird, Jim Broadbent as a twinkly eyed antiques dealer, and Peter Capaldi (the new "Doctor Who") as a nosy neighbor. Plus Nicole Kidman as a museum director who wants to stuff young Paddington for an exhibit.

Much of the first hour of "Paddington" is devoted to the bear's attempts to fit into the Brown household, after Mrs. Brown takes him in despite the initial objections of her uptight husband and disapproving children (Madeleine Harris and Samuel Joslin), including a few grand-scale slapstick disasters. Co-writer/director Paul King (who directed the avant-garde comedy series "The Mighty Boosh") is more interested in emotional resonance, though, than fulfilling a laugh quotient. So you're far more likely to remember the various moods at the Brown residence (indicated by an animated cherry-tree mural that serves as an emotional barometer) than the occasional forays into potty humor and cross-dressing comedy.

You might be tempted to deduct points for King's blatant co-opting of Wes Anderson's cutaway shot in "Moonrise Kingdom," showing a family going about their separate affairs in their home. But why not call it an homage and be grateful that he's going for the same sort of whimsical, visually inventive vibe here, making it plain that a story is being told and telling it in the most magical way possible?

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Décor on a dime

The colder the weather, the more I stay inside, which means more time to notice all the things around my house that really bug me. From scratched furniture and drab walls to window coverings that have seen better days, my house is in drastic need of a facelift.

Unfortunately, my vision doesn't match my budget. How can I update my house without spending a fortune?

Karin Silva understands my dilemma. As an interior designer and co-owner of KBS Creative Décor, Silva works with an array of clients and firmly believes you can transform a room with only a few changes. Below are some of her top tips for updating your home on a shoestring.

New pillows, rugs, curtains

"One of the easiest ways to change up a room is with pillows," said Silva. "You can add pops of color and new textures that will instantly brighten a room and add interest."

Silva also suggests investing in rugs and curtains, which can add warmth and modern elegance while remaining family friendly and functional.

To save money, I opted to design my own curtains, which consisted of painting stripes on inexpensive sheer fabric. The project is relatively simple, as long as you remember to use a yardstick and painter's tape to ensure the stripes are evenly spaced apart. I also recommend using interior wall paint, as it's easy to apply and works well on fabric.

TOP: Paint and stick-on wallpapers will upgrade pieces like this old toy bin that was transformed into a towel caddy. ABOVE: Peel-and-stick wallpapers let you fix any mistakes easily.

Refresh accessories

Just as earrings and shoes can change an outfit, home accessories can change the look and feel of a room. "You can easily refresh a room by adding new vases, candles and other inexpensive accessories that feel more current," said Silva.

Current trends lean towards natural elements such as rocks, reclaimed wood and bamboo, which help bring a sense of serenity to any space, while gold, black and brass accessories are making an edgy comeback.

Don't be afraid to get creative. Use familiar objects in unexpected ways, so that pebble bathroom tile becomes a decorative trivet, or wineglasses turned upside-down transform into candleholders.

ABOVE: Wineglass candleholders and stone tile trivet are easy-to-make room accents. | PHOTOS BY BETH ENGELMAN/FOR PIONEER PRESS

LEFT: Painting curtains as you like them is a quick way to brighten a room.

Pull, peel and post

Sometimes paint or wallpaper can be the only thing you need to revitalize a room. Silva suggests painting (or wallpapering) a single accent wall, which easily adds depth and interest.

When creating an accent wall, be careful when choosing your palette and pattern. You want the wall to complement your furnishings without being too busy or distracting.

Peel-and-stick wallpaper is perfect for creating an accent wall, as it is relatively inexpensive and very forgiving (you can reposition it again and again). It's also versatile, as it can be used to upcycle old furniture and accessories.

For more information about Karin Silva and KBS Creative Décor, visit www.kbscreativedecor.com.

GO CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

Classic Film Series
1 p.m.: Film historian Ralph Amelio leads a discussion following the movie, "Angels with Dirty Faces." In the film, a priest tries to stop a gangster from corrupting a group of street kids. Directed by Michael Curtiz with James Cagney, Pat O'Brien and Humphrey Bogart. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-867-7828.

Women, Wine and Wellness
6:30 p.m.: Wildwood Nature Center hosts at Whole Foods Market to discover the health benefits (and delicious tastes) of select wines paired with healthy treats such as dark chocolate, rustic whole grain breads, and a variety from the store's extensive olive bar. (Ages 21 & Up) Register online at www.prparks.org. Whole Foods Market, 225 W. Touhy Ave. , Park Ridge. Call 847-692-3570. $15.

Minis and Models
7 p.m.: Drop in to learn the basic techniques for painting fantasy or war-gaming minis and crafting model terrain. Tools and paints provided. Elmwood Park Public Library, 1 W. Conti Parkway, Elmwood Park. Call 708-453-7645.

FRIDAY, JAN. 23

Handicrafters
10 a.m.: Held every Friday at 10 a.m. Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge. Call 847-692-5127.

Winter Bingo and Lunch
11:30 a.m.: Adults can warm up with an afternoon of lunch, Bingo and prizes until 2 p.m. The program is sponsored by Brandel Health and Rehab at Covenant Village of Northbrook. Registration closes on Jan. 21. The fee is $10 for Senior Center members and $15 for non-members. Call 847-291-2988 or visit the Northbrook Senior Center to register. Leisure Center, 3323 Walters Ave., Northbrook. Call 847-291-2995.

Winter Documentary Series
Noon: Keep warm every Friday afternoon in January with the library's Documentary Film Series. View "Exporting Raymond," a chronicle of producer Phil Rosenthal's experiences during the making of a Russian-language version of the hit sitcom Everybody Loves Raymond. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-867-7828.

Drop-In Gaming/Movie, Grades 5-8
3:30 p.m.: Kids and teens in grades 5-8 are invited to drop in to watch a movie or play games. All movies will be rated G or PG. River Forest Public Library, 735 Lathrop Ave., River Forest. Call 708-366-5205.

District 212's Lil' Leydenettes Clinic
4 p.m.: District 212's Leydenette Dance Team is hosting the Lil' Leydenettes Clinic for children in 2nd through 8th grades. The clinic will be held in the dance studio at East Leyden High School. Following the clinic, participants will perform at halftime during the boy's varsity basketball home game against Willowbrook beginning at 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested in auditioning for the District 212's Leydenettes Dance Team in high school is encouraged to participate in this event so as to interact with current team members and to practice dance and performance skills. The cost includes a T-shirt and pizza. For more information and to register, contact Marisa Kapinos by phone or at mkapinos@leyden212.org. East Leyden High School, 3400 Rose St., Franklin Park. Call 847-451-3054. $20 in advance, $25 at door.

SATURDAY, JAN. 24

38th Annual North Shore Jazz Fest
8 a.m.: In its 38th year, the North Shore Jazz Fest at Glenbrook South High School, brings over 80 junior and senior high school jazz bands together to perform on four stages all day long. Headliner Jeff Hedberg and CII perform at 6 p.m. The awards ceremony is at 7:15 p.m. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, homemade baked goods, coffee and other beverages are available for purchase throughout the day. Glenbrook South High School, 4000 W. Lake Ave., Glenview. $10 for adults, $5 for kids under 12 and senior citizens, $25 for families.

Creative Creatures
9 a.m.: School-aged children are invited to join Miss Dana for a different art project each week. A variety of materials will be available to participants. Drop in for crafting at any time. Bensenville Community Library, 200 S. Church Road, Bensenville. Call 630-766-4642.

Tween Stars Live! A Star Studded School Fundraiser!
3 p.m.: A portion of the proceeds go back to your school. Parents must call to mention one's school to get the credit. Call Celebrity Placement Marketing at 248-855-5684 to purchase tickets. This highly interactive family variety show features 90 minutes of surprise-filled pure family fun for all ages! The jam-packed talent show features a fun, unpredictable, in-audience Q & A session with the stars; totally tween trivia with prizes; improvisation, comedy and tween musical acts, as well as a chance to act out scenes on stage with the stars! VIP autograph and photo session -- get up close and personal with the tween stars. Also, taking place at Sunday, January 25, 2015 12:00-1:30pm Star Plaza Theatre 8001 Delaware Pl Merrillville, IN 46410. Event website: www.tweenstarslive.com; Event video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKiZb-hj3sA Patio Theatre, 6008 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. Call 248-855-5684 . Seats start at $15.

The Highwood Chamber of Commerce hosts annual dinner and meeting
6 p.m.: Annual dinner and meeting at the Highwood Bocce Club with cocktail hour (cash bar) beginning at 6 p.m., with presentations and dinner at 7 p.m. DJ, dancing and Bocce, before and after dinner. Open to Chamber members and non-Chamber members. Reservations required by calling the Chamber office at 847-433-2100. Those planning to play Bocce must bring a clean pair of soled flat shoes. Highwood Bocce Club, 440 Bank Lane, Highwood. Call (847) 926-8118. $50 per person.

Yuval Ron Ensemble to perform
7:30 p.m.: Dominican University's Performing Arts Center will host a performance by the Yuval Ron Ensemble in the Lund Auditorium on Dominican's Main Campus. The Yuval Ron Ensemble endeavors to alleviate national, racial, religious and cultural divides by uniting the music and dance of the people of the Middle East into an inspiring musical celebration. Yuval Ron, an internationally renowned World Music artist, Oscar-winning composer, educator, peace activist and record producer, leads the ensemble of Jewish, Christian and Muslim artists. Tickets start at $26. Call for tickets or information. Dominican University, 7900 W. Division St., River Forest. Call 708-488-5000.

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.

SUNDAY, JAN. 25

Pancake Breakfast
8:30 a.m.: An all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast including sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, milk and coffee. American Legion Post 974, 9757 Pacific Ave., Franklin Park. Call 847-678-7474. $6.

The Music and Influence of Pete Seeger
2 p.m.: Relive the legacy of the late Pete Seeger as one hears his music again through the thoughtful and engaging Steve Justman. See (and hear!) the lasting impact of Seeger on music! Sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Brook Public Library. Registration is required. Call 630-368-7725. Oak Brook Public Library, 600 Oak Brook Road, Oak Brook.

Sunday Soiree - Midwest Young Artists
2:30 p.m.: Sunday Soirees are chamber music performances by groups from Midwest Young Artists, the premier youth music education and ensemble organization in the Midwest which represents some of the best young musicians in the country. These are free concerts. Bennett Gordon Hall, Ravinia, 418 Sheridan Road, Highland Park. Call 847-926-9898.

Tango Buenos Aires
3 p.m.: The Auditorium Theatre presents the Chicago debut of Tango Buenos Aires's Song of Eva Perón, a Tango dance and music performance inspired by the most important feminine character in Argentinian history, Eva Perón. Tracing her epic life – from her ascent to fame in the 1930s to her death in 1952. Roosevelt University - Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress Pkwy., Chicago. Call 800-982-2787. $25-$6.

Israel Scholarship Pasta Dinner and Dessert Auction
5 p.m.: Temple Beth Israel presents "Pasta Dinner and Dessert Auction," a fundraiser for TBI Youth Israel Scholarship Fund. Paid reservations due by Monday, Jan. 19. Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St., Skokie. Call 847-675-0951. $8 per person, $25 per family.

Robbie Burns Night
5 p.m.: A celebration of the flowering of Scottish culture, with haggis, song, poetry, music, Highland dancers. Chef Deb makes a haggis from scratch, served with tatties and neeps, as well as fresh baked buttery Scottish shortbread. Regular menu also available, as well as house brewed ales and flights of Scotch. Program runs until 7 p.m. Please call for reservations. 847-491-6778. Peckish Pig, 623 Howard St., Evanston. Call 847-902-6695. $10 includes sampler.

Evanston Art Center Faculty Exhibition and Reception
5 p.m.: View over 60 Art Center faculty members talent at its Biennial Faculty Exhibition opening on Jan. 25 and running through Feb. 22. The Opening Reception, runs from 1-4 p.m. on Jan. 25. The Art Center's galleries showcase its faculty's newest work in ceramics, digital arts, drawing, painting, fiber, figure sculpture, jewelry, metal sculpture, mosaics, photography, and printmaking. Limited free parking is available. For more information visit online at www.evanstonartcenter.org or contact Paula Danoff, Director of Communications, at 847-475-5300 Ext. 206. Visit the Evanston Art Center on Facebook: www.facebook.com/evanston.art or follow on Twitter: www.twitter.com/#!/evartcenter Evanston Art Center, 2603 Sheridan Road, Evanston.

Diva! Susanna Phillips Sings Handel, Haydn, and Mozart
7:30 p.m.: Vocal sparks will fly as star soprano Susanna Phillips sings virtuoso music by Handel, Haydn, and Mozart written for the great divas of their time. Jane Glover leads a program that also includes Mozart's Symphony No. 34 and a sparkling concerto grosso by Handel.

SEE GO CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE »

« FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

GO CALENDAR

$38-$75 (Call for $25 Senior tickets) North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. Call 312-551-1414.

MONDAY, JAN. 26

Classical Organ Recital
1:30 p.m.: Stephen Alltop, director of music at Northwestern's Alice Millar Chapel, performs works by J.S. Bach, César Franck, Jean-Adam Guilain and Henri Mulet. Elliott Chapel at Presbyterian Homes, 3131 Simpson St., Evanston. Call 847-492-2915.

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

TUESDAY, JAN. 27

Drawing Portraits
7 p.m.: Artist Pam Cofre demonstrates drawing from photographs and helps you develop your drawing skills. Learn about face shapes, eyes, facial proportions, light and shadow and more. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-867-7828.

The Tuesday Ten' Showcase
8 p.m.: A mix of 10 headliners, including rising stars and surprise guests, perform stand-up. $10 and the purchase of at least two food or drink items. Zanies Comedy Night Club Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont. Call 847-813-0484.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28

Lunch and Bingo
10 a.m.: Enjoy a game of bingo and lunch. Come early for coffee and conversation. Fee includes lunch from a local restaurant or caterer. Bingo cards 50 cents each. Registration is required. North Shore Senior Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove. Call 847-784-6030. $6 members, $8 nonmembers.

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

FRIDAY, JAN. 30

Winter Documentary Series
Noon: The film, "Standing in the Shadows of Motown" will be featured as part of the Winter Documentary Series. Discover the unknown Detroit musicians who played on more number ones hits than The Beach Boys, The Rolling Stones, Elvis and The Beatles combined. Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Call 708-867-7828.

SATURDAY, JAN. 31

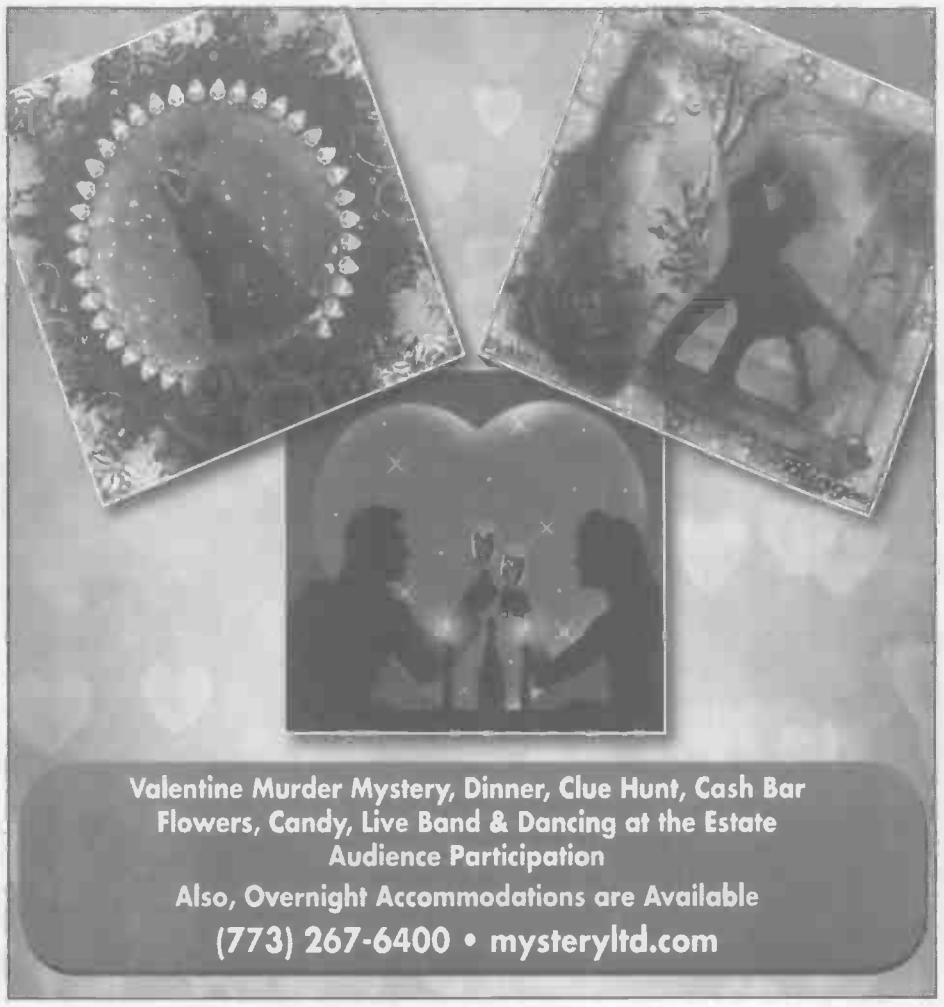
Indoor Farmers' Market
9 a.m.: The Glenview New Church hosts the Indoor Farmers' Market. Come purchase late-season produce, soups, sauces, jams, cheese, meats, baked goods, honey, and much more! Support your local farmers during the off-season too! The Glenview New Church, 74 Park Dr., Glenview. Call 847-962-4073.

Japan Fest 2015
Noon: The annual Japan Fest showcases Japanese drums, koto harps, shamisen, traditional dance, Aikido and singing. Activity stations are set up for guests to enjoy Japanese culture. Try putting on Kimono, get face painting, sumo wrestling, origami, calligraphy, practice using chopsticks, making various crafts, play with Japanese toys and games, Dance Dance Revolution, mini language and culture lessons and learn proper table manners. Lots and lots of fun activities for the whole family. Oak Park and River Forest High School, 201 N. Scoville Ave., Oak Park. Call 708-434-3386.

"Silver Threads and Golden Needles" Opening Exhibition
5 p.m.: An exhibition of new drawings and textiles by Chicago artist, Judith Roston Freilich runs from Jan. 31 through Feb 28. Opening Reception on two days: from 5-10 p.m Saturday, Jan. 31 and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 1. Gallery Hours: from 1-5 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 5 and 12 and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15. Or call for an appointment. Space 900, 1042 Wesley Avenue, Evanston. Call 847-835-2393.

SUNDAY, FEB. 1

Skokie: Invaded But Not Conquered
2 p.m.: Registration required In 1977, Skokie was shaken to its core when a small group of neo-Nazis tried to march there. This attracted national and international attention, leading to landmark legal cases. The American Nazi Party's application for a parade permit here set the stage for a clear-cut conflict between the organization's First Amendment rights and Skokie residents' right to live free of intimidation. The film made extensive use of archival footage and contemporary interviews to reveal how a debate over First Amendment rights inspired Holocaust survivors to create the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center. This 60-minute film screening is followed by a discussion led by Buzz Alpert, community activist during that time. Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood. Call 847-677-5277 x232. Free.



Film Clips

BY BRUCE INGRAM
Film Critic

OPENING FRIDAY

THE BOY NEXT DOOR

Rated R for violence, sexual content/nudity and language

Stars: Jennifer Lopez, Ryan Guzman, John Corbett

After her divorce, a lonely single mom (Lopez) begins a torrid affair with a hunky young guy (Guzman) in the neighborhood — and soon finds herself in deep trouble. Rob Cohen ("Alex Cross") directed the thriller.

MORTDECAI

Rated R for some language and sexual material

Stars: Johnny Depp, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ewan McGregor, Jeff Goldblum

A debonair art dealer (Depp) attempts to outwit angry Russians, England's MI5 and an international terrorist while searching for a painting containing a code that leads to stolen Nazi gold. David Koepp ("Premium Rush") directed the comedy.

WE'll NEVER HAVE PARIS

Rated R for sexual content and language

Stars: Simon Helberg, Melanie Lynskey, Maggie Grace, Zachary Quinto

After a brief affair with a beautiful blonde (Grace), a man (Helberg) pursues his spurned fiancée (Lynskey) to Paris to seek forgiveness. Helberg (TV's "The Big Bang Theory") also wrote and co-directed the romantic comedy.

STILL PLAYING

THE WEDDING RINGER
★★ 1/2

Rated R for crude and sexual content, language throughout, some drug use and brief graphic nudity

Stars: Kevin Hart, Josh Gad, Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting, Olivia Thirlby

It's mostly dumb and derivative, but there's one unexpectedly sophisticated set piece in this otherwise typically rude, crude, bro-centric comedy that suggests "The Wedding Ringer" could have been better if it had set its sights higher. Hart (outclassing the material he's been given, as usual) is consistently entertaining as a fast-talking professional best man taking on the impossible assignment of making nebbishy tax attorney Gad look spectacularly popular at his upcoming wedding to a shallow shiksa goddess.

STILL ALICE
★★★ 1/2

Rated PG-13 for mature thematic material, and brief language including a sexual reference

Stars: Julianne Moore, Alec Baldwin, Kristen Stewart, Kate Bosworth

Julianne Moore has received her fifth Oscar nomination for this quiet, intelligent drama about the onset of Alzheimer's disease — and she's never been more deserving of a win. At her subtle best, Moore portrays an internationally respected linguistics professor who gradually declines to the point where she can't remember her own name. That may seem a terribly depressing prospect, but that's not what writer/directors Wash Westmoreland and Richard Glatzer (who has himself struggled with the onset of ALS) are going for. Even after she loses battle after battle, Moore makes it clear that something essentially Alice remains.

BLACKHAT

Rated R for violence and some language

Stars: Chris Hemsworth, Viola Davis, Wei Tang

Timeliness is certainly on its side, considering the recent Sony Pictures data breach (and Chris Hemsworth's installment as People magazine's Sexiest Man Alive), yet this disappointingly tepid cyber thriller rarely musters much excitement. Hemsworth stars as the world's hunkiest computer hacker, temporarily sprung from prison to help track down a dangerous cyber-criminal before he can execute his most nefarious scheme. Director Michael Mann ("Thief," "Heat," "Collateral") provides his usual world-class visual dazzle. Unfortunately, all the cool, brooding pizzazz in the world can't make up for two-dimensional characters and a confusing, vaguely preposterous plot.

A MOST VIOLENT YEAR
★★★ 1/2

Rated R for language and some violence

Stars: Oscar Isaac, Jessica Chastain, David Oyelowo, Albert Brooks

Despite the title, the thing that makes "Most Violent Year" interesting is its atypical hero's determination to avoid violence at all costs. Former immigrant truck driver Abel (Isaac, confirming the promise displayed in last year's "Inside Llewyn Davis"), now the owner of an embattled NYC heating-oil business, is determined to take the "most right" road wherever possible despite the cutthroat nature of his business. That position puts him at great risk after gambling on one make-or-break deal. This dark, brooding urban drama is the third smart, serious, finely crafted film in a row from 41-year-old writer/director J.C. Chandor ("Margin Call," "All is Lost").

Showtimes

Nuptial nonsense: Josh Gad and Kevin Hart in "The Wedding Ringer." | AP PHOTO/SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT, INC., MATT KENNEDY

Movie times are effective Friday, Jan. 23, through Thursday, Jan. 29. Please note that theater schedules are subject to change.

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

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

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

American Sniper (R)
Fri-Sun 1:30-4:15-7-9:30; Mon-Thu 4:30-7-9:30

Taken 3 (PG-13)
Fri-Sun 1-3:45-6:30-8:45; Mon-Thu 4-6:30-8:45

Selma (PG-13)
Fri-Sun 1-3:30-6:30-9; Mon-Thu 4-6:30-9

Paddington (PG)
Fri-Sun 1-3:30-6-8:15; Mon-Thu 4-6-8:15

ROSEMONT 18
9701 Bryn Mawr Ave.
Rosemont
(847) 447-1030
www.muvico.com
Contact theater for showtimes.

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

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

REGAL GARDENS 7-13
4999 Old Orchard Center
Skokie
(847) 674-0184
www.regmovies.com
Contact theater for showtimes.

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Chicago Tribune

YOUR Local Worship Guide

CHICAGO

Edison Park Lutheran Church
6626 N. Oliphant Ave. Chicago, IL
(Across park from Edison Park Metra)
773.631.9131, www.edisonparkchurch.com
Saturday, 4:30 pm - Evensong
Sunday, 8:00 am - Traditions
Sunday, 9:15 am - Spirit Bridge
Sunday, 10:30 am - New Song
Sunday School - 9:15 am
Adult Bible Study - 8:00 am
Rev. Dr. Michael D. Sparby, Sr. Pastor
Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry
Matt Haider, Worship / Music
Michael Lyda, Children/Youth/Family

St. Paul Lutheran Church
5650 N. Canfield, 60631,
(708) 867-5044, www.stpaulcanfield.org
Street Level, Air Conditioned
Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45AM
Sunday School & Adult Bible 9:30AM
Saturday Worship 6PM
Lutheran Unity School - West
Pre K-Grade 8, SHARING GOD,
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Norwood Park Lutheran Church
5917 N. Nina Ave Chicago, IL
P: 773.631.2860
F: 773.631.0142
www.norwoodparklutheran.org
Worship Services
Sundays
At
10:00 am

Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)
6201 W Peterson Ave.
Chicago, IL (773) 631-0715
Saturday Worship 5:30PM
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
Holy Communion Weekly
Pastors: Barbara Berry-Bailey
and Jeffery King

CHICAGO

United in Faith Lutheran Church
6525 W Irving Park Road
773-283-2326 • www.unitedinfaith.org
Sunday
8:30 AM Traditional Worship
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Praise &
Worship Service
Tuesday - 7:00 PM Bible Study
Rev. Lester White
Handicapped Accessible
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GLENVIEW

Rohr Chabad Center of Glenview
701 Harlem Avenue, Glenview
Shabbat morning services 9:30 am
NO membership required
For all your Jewish needs call
847-910-1738
www.ChabadofGlenview.com

MORTON GROVE

St. Luke's Christian Community Church
9233 Shermer Rd., Morton Grove
Sunday Worship & Sunday School - 10 AM
http://www.stlukesecc.org/
Handicap Accessible
Pastor Elizabeth Jones

Morton Grove Community Church Presbyterian Church (USA)
8944 Austin Ave., Morton Grove
(Lake and Austin)
(847) 965-2982
www.mgccpresbyterian.org
Sunday Worship 10AM
Fellowship 11AM
Rev. Lolly Dominski
Rev. Bunny Hughes
Handicapped Accessible
ALL ARE WELCOME!

NILES

St. John Lutheran Church (LCMS)
7429 N. Milwaukee Ave.
847-647-9867
www.st-john-niles.org
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for your forgiveness
Welcoming traditional worship
Sanctuary Handicap accessible
Sunday Worship at 9:30
Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45
Rev. Matthew Joseph Gunia, Pastor
"For whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart ...."
-1 John 3:20

NORRIDGE

Zion Lutheran Church
8600 W Lawrence Avenue
Norridge, IL 60706
(708) 453-3514
Rev. Luther John Bajus, Pastor
Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Holy Communion 3rd & 5th Sunday
Early Communion - 1st Sunday 9:00 am
Sunday School - 10:35 am
Adult Bible Study - 10:45 am
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Willow Creek Community Church North Shore Campus
315 Waukegan Road
847-441-6599
Sunday Services: 8:30, 10 & 11:30am
Promiseland (Infants-Gr5): 8:30, 10 & 11:30am
Elevate (Grades 6-8): 10 & 11:30am
Impact (Grades 9-12): 6pm
For more information visit
www.WillowNorthShore.org

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Park Ridge Presbyterian Church
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847-823-4135
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Nursery service for younger children
8:45 am Confirmation classes for 8th grade
9:00 am High School
Adult Education Bible Study Sunday 11:30 am
Adult Education Bible Study Thursdays 6:30 pm
"Open Forum" Adult Learning First Thursday
every month 6:30 pm
www.parkridgepresby.org
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YOUR Local Worship Guide

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3601 W. Dempter St.
Skokie, IL 60076
847-675-0951
www.tbiskokie.org

Calvary Redemption Center
8256 Skokie Blvd.
Skokie, IL 60077
847-674-1100
www.mycrc.tv
office@calvaryredemptioncenter.org
Sunday Service: 10 am
Youth Group: 10 am
Children's Church: 10 am
Rev. Ebenezer Dei, Senior Pastor

SKOKIE

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Rabbi Dr. Michael Gottesman
Minyons: Mon. & Thurs. 8:00 AM
Kabbala Shabbos-Sept. to June at candle lighting time
Saturday 9:00 AM Followed by Kiddush
Sunday 8:30 AM Followed by breakfast
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4040 Main Street, Skokie, Illinois
847-674-4117
www.wix.com/skokiecentral/shul

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

SKOKIE

Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation
4500 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076
847-675-4141,
http://www.ehnt.org/
Shabbat: Fri 8PM & Sat 9:30AM
Minyan Mon - Thurs 7PM
Sat & Sun 6PM
Religious School Tues & Sat
Rabbi Jeffrey Weill
Cantor Benjamin Warschawski
Rabbi Neil Brief, Emeritus

W.M. Temple Church of God in Christ, Inc.
5151 Church St., Skokie, IL
(847) 966-1095 • www.wmtcogic.org
pastorcranford@gmail.com
Sunday Service: 11:30 AM
Sunday School: 10 AM
Bible Study: Wednesday, 7 PM
Intercessory Prayer:
Tuesday & Friday, 12 PM
Dr. Clarence Cranford, Jr., Pastor
Elizabeth W. Cranford, 1st Lady

SKOKIE

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5130 Touhy, Skokie • 847-673-3370
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WILMETTE

Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah
3220 Big Tree Lane, 847-256-1213
www.bhcbe.org
Kabbalat Shabbat Fridays 6:00 PM
Shabbat Service – Saturdays 9:30 AM
Jr. Congregation, Tot Shabbat,
Torah Time 10:30 AM
Followed by Kiddush
Daily Minyan 7 AM and 7:30 PM
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- A paid death notice may be ordered to appear in the Pioneer Press when funeral arrangements are made, and must be submitted in writing. Information about charges for death notices may be obtained from area funeral directors or by calling (847) 998-3400. A 24-hour fax service is offered at (847) 486-6836 or death notices may be e-mailed to deathnotices@pioneerlocal.com.
- An in memoriam or card of thanks may be placed using the same information above.
- The deadline for placing a death notice, in memoriam or card of thanks, is Monday at 5:00 pm. Photos must be submitted by Monday at 2:00pm.
- The death notice department is staffed from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday.
- Family and friends may visit our website and sign a guest book at Pioneerlocal.com.

SUN-TIMES MEDIA

Death Notices

Sweadner, Mary Gladys Vanstrom

104, of Lincolnwood, IL. Beloved wife of the late Richard I. Sweadner; loving mother of Sandra (Keith) Kreft and Nancy (Bill) Koutsis; cherished grandmother of 6; and great-grandmother of 6; dear sister of Peggy (the late Jacob) Cobb of Atlanta; fond aunt and great-aunt to many nieces and nephews.

Born in Lynd, MN second of 6 children, she graduated from Winona State University. She began her career in Winona at Montgomery Wards, where she was sent throughout Minnesota and the Dakotas. Promoted to headquarters in Chicago, she met and married Richard Inglis Sweadner in 1946. Mary was an officer for many years at the First National Bank of Lincolnwood.

Visitation Friday from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. at **Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home**, 185 E. Northwest Hwy., Palatine. The service will be Saturday at Carter-Westminister United Presbyterian Church, 4950 W. Pratt Avenue, Skokie at 10:30 a.m. Because of Mary's love of Chicago and the arts, memorial donations may be made in her name to the Art Institute of Chicago, c/o Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home, 185 E. Northwest Hwy., Palatine, IL 60067. 847-359-8020 or visit Mary's memorial at **www.smithcorcoran.com**.

Smith-Corcoran
Funeral Homes
Sign Guest Book at www.chicagolandobits.com

Death Notices

Wilkas, Lois Janet

(nee Foloky), 77, passed away on January 14, 2015 surrounded by family. Lois was born on May 20, 1937 in Montclair, NJ to the late Nicholas and Annette Foloky (nee Perrault).

Lois is survived by her 7 children, Tom, Judy, Peggy, Anne, Mary Beth, Nancy and Christine; 13 grandchildren; and 1 great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her husband, Lawrence (Larry) Wilkas; brother, Charles Foloky; and sister, Judith Foloky.

Lois grew up in New Jersey and upstate New York before moving to the Chicago area to attend St. Francis School of Nursing, where she earned her RN. She met Larry while in nursing school and they married in 1960. They lived with their family in Park Ridge for over 25 years before moving to Greenville, SC for a decade, then back to Huntley for the past 15 years. Lois spent her career as a nurse and a homemaker. As well, she was one of the first alderwomen to serve on Park Ridge's city council. Lois was an avid volunteer at homeless shelters, women's shelters and churches in all the communities she lived. Lois was also an avid golfer, traveler and philanthropist.

A celebration of Lois' life will take place on Saturday, January 24 at Mary, Seat of Wisdom Church in Park Ridge, 1352 S. Cumberland Ave., with a family/friends visitation beginning at 10:00 a.m. and a mass at 10:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Journey Care Foundation Hospice, 405 Lake Zurich Road, Barrington, IL 60010 or online at www.journeycare.org.

Sign Guest Book at www.chicagolandobits.com

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Puzzles

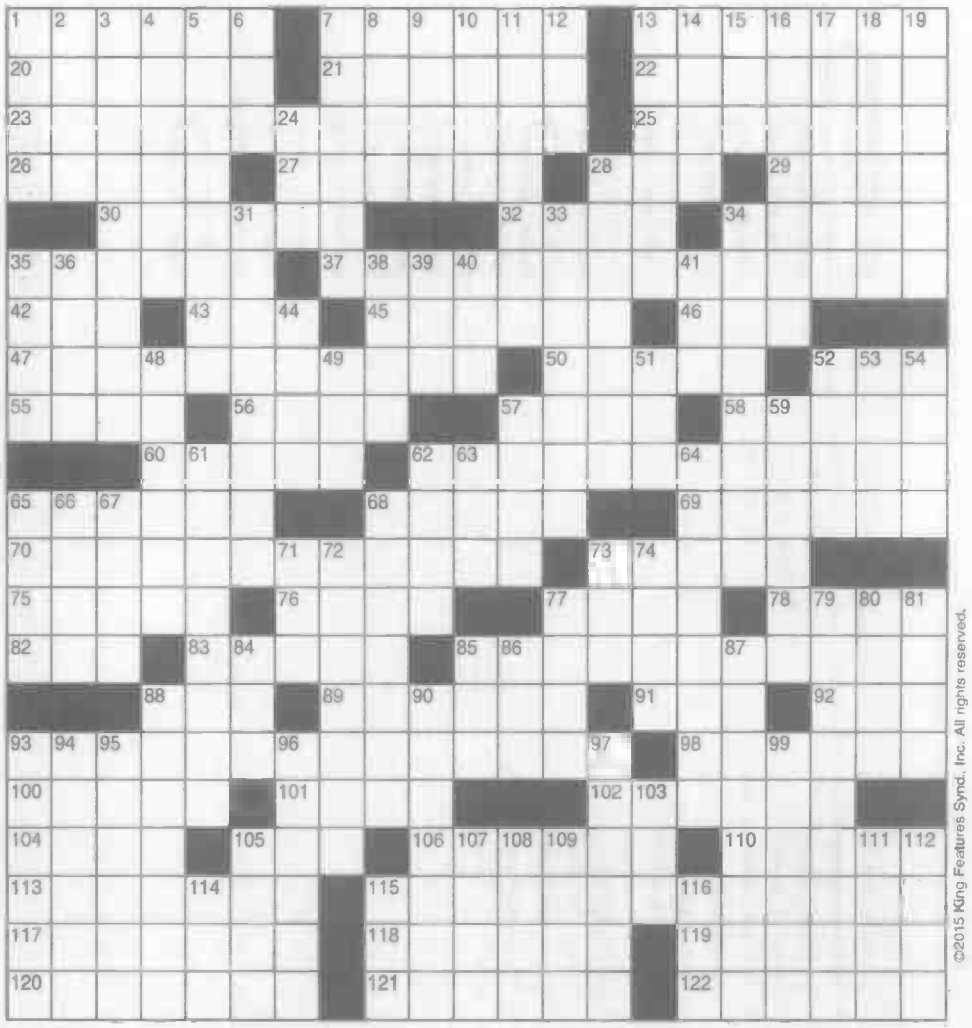
SUPER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Appear on the scene
7 Mystery writer Christie
13 Sister of Snow White
20 Canadian dollar coin
21 As well
22 Retired female prof
23 Mischievous snake?
25 Capitol Hill bigwig
26 Bicycle part
27 Like Saturn
28 Ink-filled tool
29 Blend
30 One of the Musketeers
32 Graceful bird
34 Touchy- — (overly emotional)
35 Greets with a head bob
37 What there is when a snake is inside a keg?
42 Sioux tribe member
43 Beatle bride Yoko
45 Golfer Palmer
46 Vienna is its cap.
47 Study of snake vision?
50 Bottom line
52 HP or Dell products
55 Confused
56 Noble act
57 St. Louis Arch architect Saarinen
58 Canoe variety
60 Skeletal axis
62 Snake with a talk show?
65 1980s TV's "Remington —"
68 "Crash" actor Koteas
69 Peaceful
70 Snake's relatives?
73 Arcade game pioneer
75 TV prizes
76 See 81-Down
77 Union foe
78 Billfold filler
82 Org. fining polluters
83 1:50, e.g.
85 Noodles shaped like knotted snakes?
88 Emerald, e.g.
89 Symbol of a team
91 Camera type, for short
92 Frying vessel
93 Thing that hones a snake's skills?
98 Part of TLC
100 Gather up
101 Treater's phrase
102 Sobbing soul
104 Sour
105 Tit-for- —
106 "Pretty nice!"
110 Now being broadcast
113 Living an isolated life
115 Snake's balderdash?
117 Aromatic
118 Gazed
119 "— down the hatches!"
120 "No, No, —" (old musical)
121 Mistake list
122 Broom room

DOWN

1 — unto itself
2 — Hashanah
3 Boxing tactic used by Ali
4 Derives from logic
5 Rule breaker, e.g.
6 Always, to poets
7 On the line
8 Hired hood
9 Snug as —
10 "It Had — You"
11 Sticks with, as a belief
12 Nibbled away
13 Transmit again
14 Boding sign
15 Sun Yat- —
16 Pencil tops
17 John of "Three's Company"
18 Star, to Pierre
19 Baseballer Strawberry
24 Prefix with cycle
28 Infamous box opener
31 Lyric poems sung by single voices
33 Newswoman Barbara
34 "As I Lay Dying" novelist
35 Star burst
36 Big elevator producer
38 Incursion
39 Curve part
40 Connections
41 Lamb's call
44 Frank
48 Pass gingerly
49 Golf ball supporter
51 Pull along
52 Funeral pile
53 French city on the Orne
54 — terrier (dog breed)
57 Internet auction site
59 Ghana's land
61 Wall coatings
62 Film snippet
63 Petroleum
64 Actress Huppert
65 "Peter Pan" pirate
66 Pack down tightly
67 Actress Stone
68 Where some very big birds are raised
71 Goldfish part
72 Superhero insect
73 Put-on
74 Mai — (rum drinks)
77 Surfeit
79 Hopefuls
80 Jazzman Kenton
81 With 76-Across, quit, informally
84 "Jimmy" has two
85 Pre-A.D. abbr.
86 Suffix with ball or bass
87 Suggestion
88 Body signal
90 Unthrifty type
93 Mete (out)
94 Actress Seyfried
95 30-year late-night host
96 Raspy
97 Kigali's land
99 Rome's Via —
103 Tokyo, once
105 Tightly strung
107 Polish river
108 Prefix with byte
109 Boone of baseball
111 "Gotcha"
112 Pay to live in
114 Filming locale
115 Pal of Tarzan
116 "Go On" network



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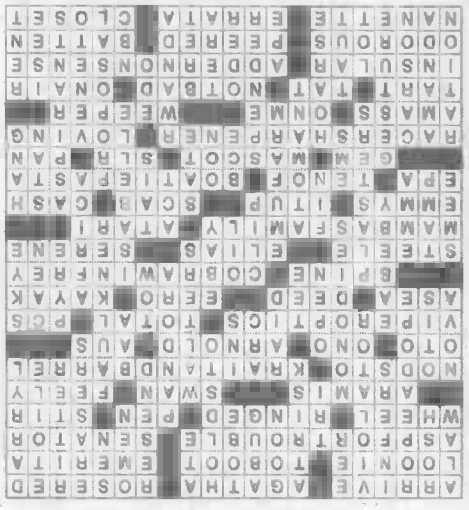
PUZZLE ANSWERS



HOROSCOPES: JANUARY 28 — FEBRUARY 3

BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE INC.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You need to be certain that all the right conditions are in place before you take that first step. Can't hurt to listen to advice from those who have your interests at heart.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Be careful not to get involved in other people's disputes unless you know the facts. That's the best way to be assured of making wise decisions.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You still need to be careful about how you're going to spend those energy reserves you finally got around to restoring. Avoid overdoing it. Let things take their course.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your aspect continues to favor travel — alone or with that special person. So if you've been putting off making those getaway plans, it's still a good time to get started on them.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Those so-called golden opportunities that continue to dazzle still need to be carefully checked out. Be suspicious about anything that looks too "perfect."

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Changes at the workplace could make it more difficult to do things the way you prefer. But showing some flexibility could find it paying off in a big way.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You might want to check out the explanation you were given for a sudden shift in your duties. There's a possibility that you haven't been told everything.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Having confidence in your abilities is important, especially when you could be facing a new challenge, whether it's in the workplace or in a personal relationship. Good luck.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A work-related opportunity might not be all that it seems. Before making any decisions, check with others who have some experience in that area.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A situation involving someone close could benefit from your timely intervention. Avoid being judgmental. There'll be time later for those "little talks."

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Travel could be a surprise element in that new project. Be prepared for other previously undisclosed aspects that might come to light as you proceed with work.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Try to balance your work-related responsibilities with the time you're spending on your recently revived social life. An old friend might be planning to return after a long absence.

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It's an NFL playoff game. The visiting team's offensive players can't hear a thing because the noise level is above 100 decibels (about as loud as a revving motorcycle). The solution, used by every team these days, is a silent snap count, the brainchild of former Cleveland offensive line coach Howard Mudd, who came up with the idea for a 1986 playoff game in Miami. Browns QB Bernie Kosar tried it using just his feet to signal the snap, and while the Dolphins still won, a new wrinkle had been added to the sport.

• • •

Can you name the only basketball coach ever to win an NCAA title and an NBA championship? The answer is Larry Brown (Kansas in 1988 and Detroit in 2004). Brown was born to coach, but never with any one team too long. In the pros, he's coached Carolina (ABA), Denver (ABA and NBA), the Nets, San Antonio, the Clippers, Indiana, Philadelphia, Detroit, the Knicks and Charlotte. In college he coached UCLA, Kansas and SMU, where he entered his third season in 2014 at age 74.

• • •

When you think of the NHL's elite goalies, Pittsburgh's Marc Andre Fleury doesn't leap to mind. But consider this: Fleury posted his 300th career win in his 547th game in November of 2014. Only Jacques Plante (521 games) and Andy Moog (543) did it quicker. Moreover, Fleury notched his 300th before turning 30, joining only Terry Sawchuk and Martin Brodeur. Of course, it helps to have Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin scoring goals for you on the offensive end.

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Chicago Tribune

NOTRE DAME

Gallardo sets sights on state medal

Dons senior driven by loss in first round of the 2014 state tournament

BY ROB VALENTIN
Special to the Tribune, @chicagolandprep

LA GRANGE PARK — The list of accomplishments for Notre Dame's James Gallardo is quite lengthy.

The senior from Northlake has wrestled on the Dons' varsity team all four years of high school. Gallardo, a three-time state qualifier, has also won three conference titles and three regional championships. In addition, Gallardo is a two-time member of the Illinois team at the National Wrestling Championships.

James Gallardo

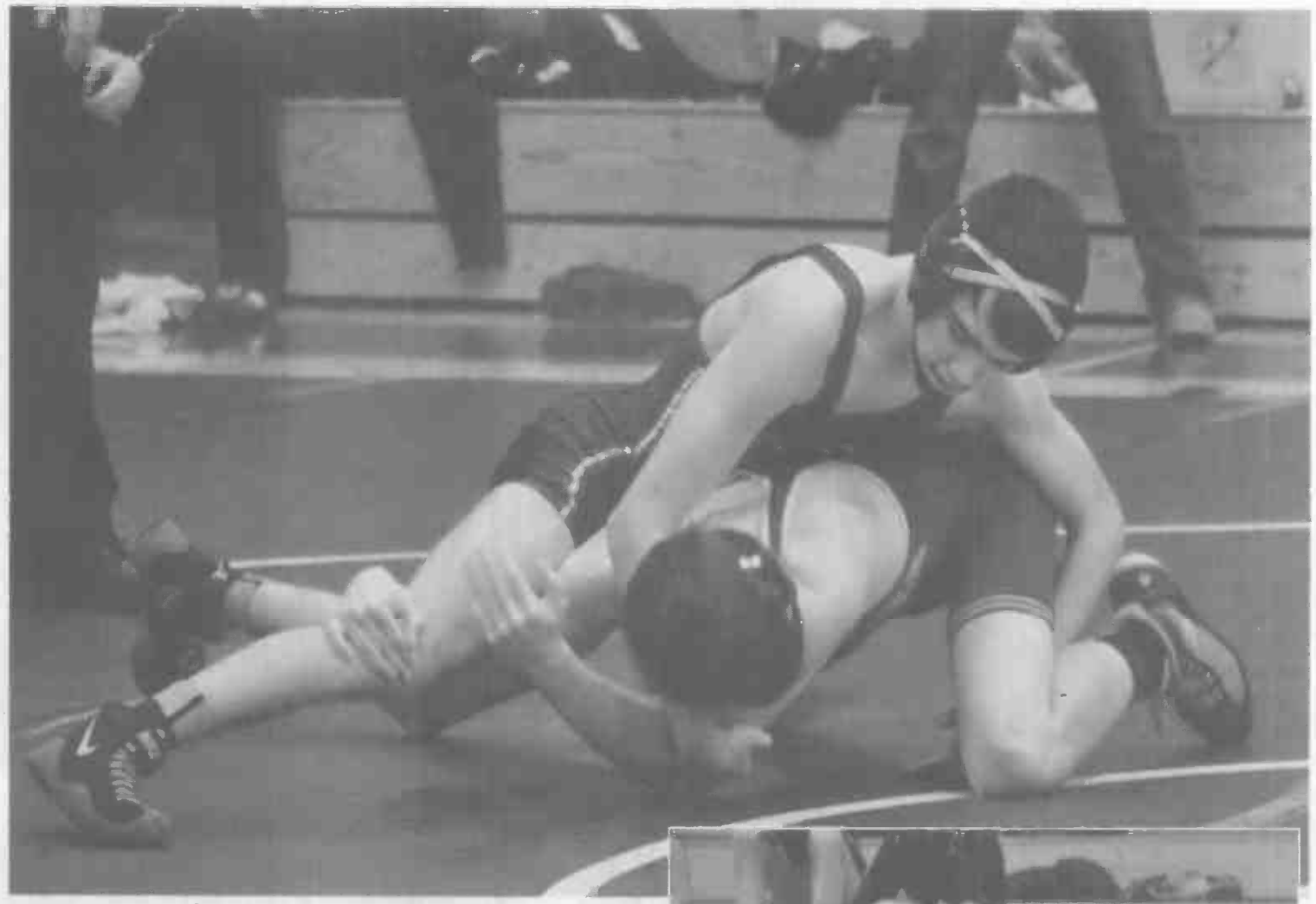
The one achievement missing is the one he's aiming for this season — placing at state.

"My goal is the same one I had last year, getting on the podium at state," Gallardo said. "Coming into this season I'm way ahead of where I was at the end of last season. Everything is going my way and I hope this is my year."

Gallardo's one win at state came as a sophomore. He dropped his second match at the Class 3A tournament to the eventual third-place finisher, Lockport's Brian Rossi.

Last year he fell to Zion-Benton's Anthony Munoz in the first round and that loss stung. But it also lit a fire under him.

"It was a huge setback," Gallardo said. "But I knew I had to make the national team again. I had to push myself, wrestling every weekend, competing against the best kids with no days off. I just pushed myself to the limit and I feel like no one is training as hard as I am."



ABOVE: Notre Dame's James Gallardo (left) wrestles St. Patrick's Thomas Godsel in an East Suburban Catholic dual on Friday at Nazareth.
RIGHT: Notre Dame's James Gallardo (left) pinned St. Patrick's Thomas Godsel 1:24 into the second period of their 113-pound match on Friday. | PHOTOS COURTESY RICK GALLARDO

Gallardo (25-3 through Friday) and his teammates are rolling right along this season. The Dons remained perfect in the East Suburban Catholic on Friday with a pair of wins at Nazareth.

Notre Dame started the night with a 47-15 victory over St. Patrick before blitzing Nazareth 64-6.

Gallardo wrestled just once, pinning the Shamrocks' Thomas Godsel 1:24 into the second period of their 113-pound match.

"I kept the pace up and put the pressure on him," Gallardo said. "I'd let him [escape] so he didn't really have a chance to keep the pace with me. When I got a comfortable lead, I felt like I should have pinned him by then so I went for it and ended up pinning him."

Gallardo brings a lot more to the Dons than just wins. His teammates and coaches admire his attitude, work ethic and selflessness.

"He's always been a leader and a role model in the room," senior Marco Orlandi said. "He goes 100 percent all of the time and he gets ticked when he loses. He really makes our practices better."

"He's made a sacrifice to the team by staying at 113," coach Augie Genovesi said. "The smallest weight class in college is 125 and he's going to be a wrestler in college."

Gallardo is looking into Edinboro, located in Pennsylvania, and Cornell in Iowa.

"I'm hoping to wrestle Division I in college, but I'll settle for just wrestling because I love the sport," Gallardo said.

MAINE EAST

Cave man

Finding a tranquil place to prepare for his matches has helped Pagonis thrive

BY GARY LARSEN
Special to the Tribune, @Pioneer_Press

When the Maine East wrestling team competes on the road, assistant coach Austin Bautista reminds senior Mario Pagonis to search the host school for a quiet spot.

"Coach Bautista calls it the cave," Blue Demons coach Emiliano Hernandez said. "He tells Mario as soon as we arrive somewhere, 'Go ahead and find your cave.' "

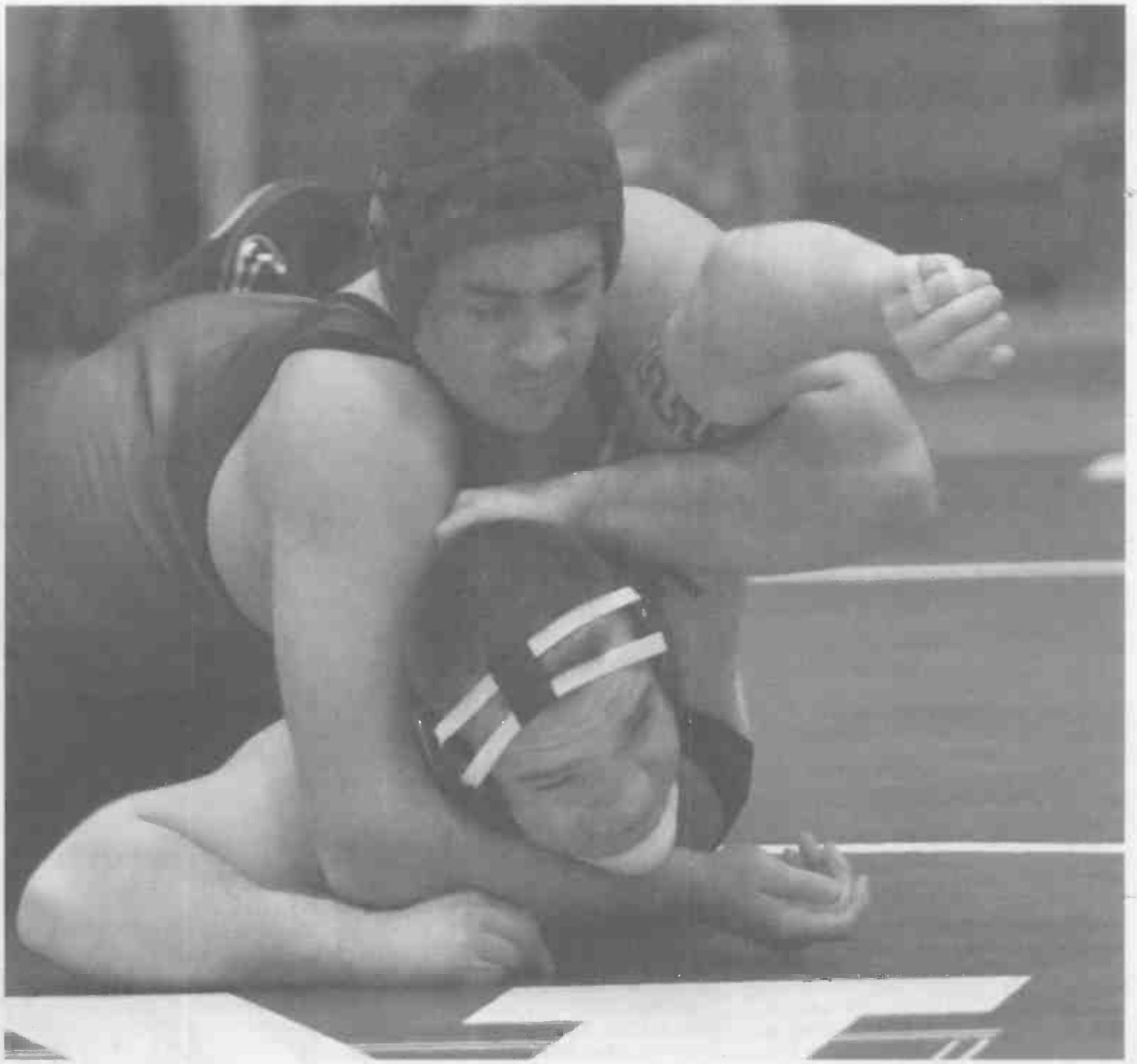
The cave is any quiet place where the 220-pounder can be alone to gather his thoughts, find his calm center and get ready to wrestle. The cave became necessary because Pagonis' intensity can sometimes work against him.

"I get really wound up and emotional watching my teammates' matches, and I waste a lot of energy rooting for them and getting angry over calls," Pagonis said. "I'd get into my match and be so riled up I couldn't think clearly."

Pagonis, a defending Central Suburban champion and sectional qualifier, entered the week with a 25-5 record at 220 pounds. He went 23-13 last season, and the cave has made all the difference this year.

"It works. I'm wrestling better than I ever have. I think about what I'm going to do in the match, I listen to music and I get in that zone," Pagonis said. "The cave is key to me performing."

Pagonis began wrestling at Maine East two years ago and Hernandez knew it would take some time for the hard-brawling sophomore to refine his skills.



In this Dec. 5, 2013, photo, Maine East's Mario Pagonis (bottom) wrestles Ridgewood's Vinny Scaletta at 220 pounds. The two wrestlers met again on Jan. 10, and Pagonis emerged with a 3-2 win. | FILE

"He was a strong kid but he was wild. He had that pit bull mentality and would just pound on you until you gave up," Hernandez said. "That didn't always work so his development has been huge with technique and mat sense. He has worked his tail off to get that strategy and technique that he needed."

By the middle of his junior season, Pagonis cut down on his mistakes, stopped brawling and gassing out in matches, and started employing more technique and strategy on the mat.

While a hot-shooting basketball player is said to be in "the zone," in wrestling it's all about "the flow," and Pagonis began finding his flow during matches.

"Flow is one of those things you can't really describe," Pagonis said. "I don't know why it happens but I'm glad it does. It's like muscle memory. Something happens and you just know what to do without thinking. Being in that zone match after match is a really cool thing to be able to do."

On Jan. 10, Pagonis put everything together in winning an individual title at the 14-team tournament at Leyden. Pagonis opened the tournament with a pin to reach the semifinals, where Ridgewood's Vinny Scaletta was waiting.

Scaletta beat Pagonis in overtime in a dual meet earlier this year, but Pagonis pulled out a 3-2 win in the rematch. He then won the tournament title with a 5-1 decision over Oak Forest's Nick Graziano, who had reached the title mat at a 32-team tournament in Palatine on Dec. 30.

Maine East will wrestle Feb. 7 at the Class 3A Evanston Regional, which feeds into an individual sectional at Glenbard North. Pagonis will find his cave before he wrestles in the postseason, and he'll quietly focus on the things that have turned him into one of the area's top 220-pounders.

"I used to make bad decisions in matches but now I know what I need to do out there," Pagonis said. "I'm wrestling better than I ever have, using speed and technique instead of strength, and I'm ready."

NILES WEST

With full complement of wrestlers, Wolves edge rival

Niles West seniors win three straight matches to close out dual

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Special to the Tribune, @VanDrilSports

SKOKIE — The Niles West wrestling team had several November and December dual meets in which it spotted its opponent up to 24 points due to forfeits.

That wasn't the case on Jan. 15, however. The Wolves had a full lineup for the first time all season, according to senior George Tripkos, and it beat Niles North 34-22 on a night where every point mattered.

"We've had times where we've forfeited up to four weight classes," Tripkos said. "That's 24 [points]. It's hard to come back from 24 points. ... Now we're [able to prevail] in close matches like that. It's great."

The Jan. 15 dual was intense throughout, but that was especially true after Niles North junior 182-pounder Obi Iheme beat junior Stefan Vukasin 7-3. The Vikings took a 23-22 lead at that point — they were later deducted a team point — and the pressure was squarely on Niles West seniors Brian Stranz, Tripkos and heavyweight Rafael Awad on senior night.

All three responded with wins. Stranz scored a last-second takedown against junior Cameron Cichowicz to win his match 3-1. Tripkos followed with a 3-1 victory in overtime over Niles North senior Isaiah Tate, which made the score 28-22.

"No win has ever felt better," Tripkos said.

Awad finished the meet off emphatically with a pin of sophomore Dylan Ramirez at 3:28. After the match, Awad said that being in such a tight dual meet added pressure for the Wolves — a type of tension that they haven't felt in many duals this year.

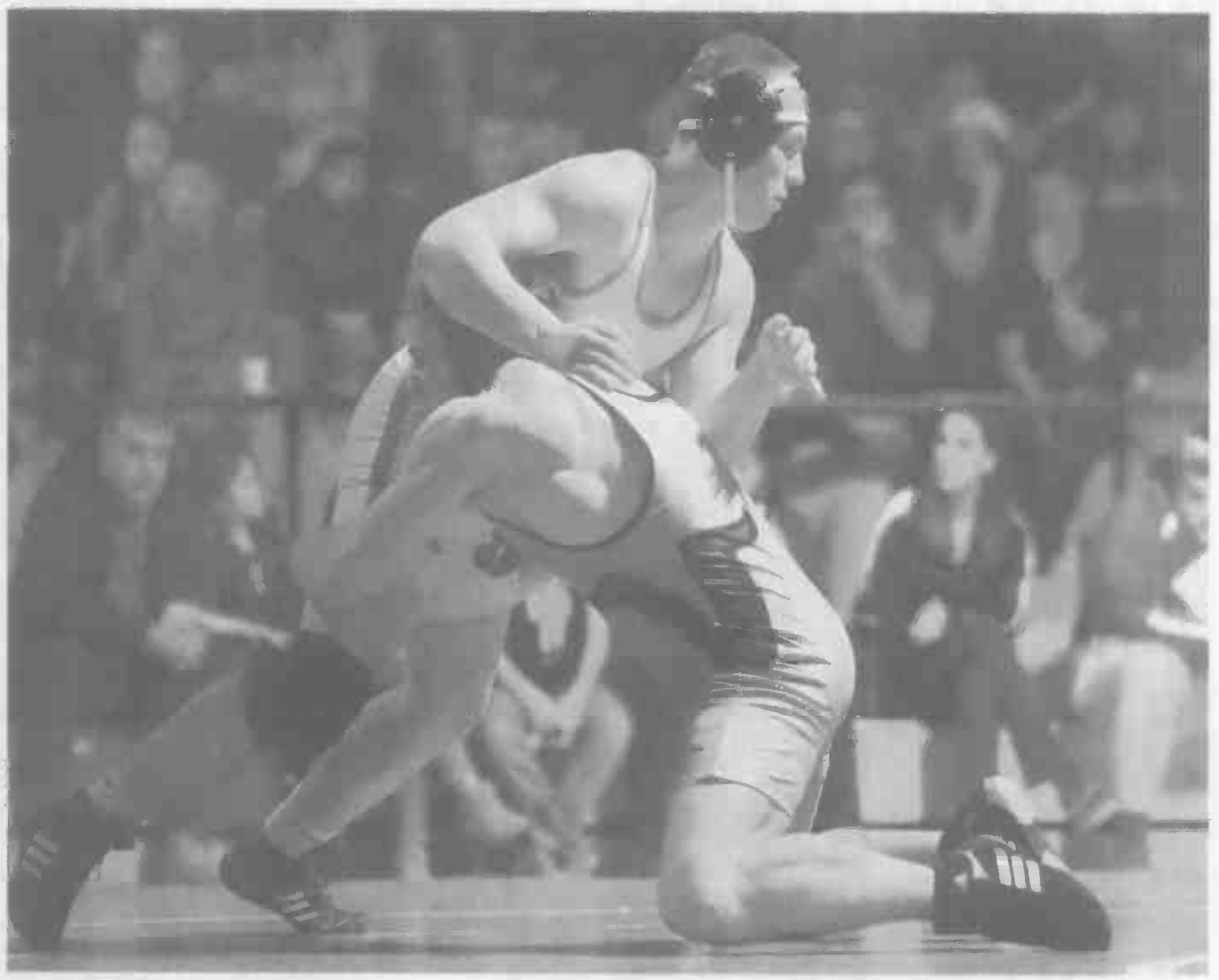
"There was so much pressure in this," Awad said. "That's why I love it."

The close score throughout the dual seemed to have a positive impact on many of Niles West's wrestlers.

"I think when everybody's energized — seeing a lot of our buddies win and stuff — it makes a big difference," Stranz said.

Stranz, Tripkos and Awad were the heroes at the end of the meet, but several Niles West wrestlers performed well.

Freshman Richard Darrough (120 pounds) and sophomore Bruce Blumenthal (138) — who have helped fill the lineup — were both important in putting the seniors in position to beat Niles North. Darrough won his match by a 12-2 major decision, and Blumenthal lost a 7-6 decision to sophomore David Montes. Blumenthal was recently pulled up from JV.



ABOVE: Niles West's Brian Stranz (top) fights off Niles North's Cameron Cichowicz during their match on Jan. 15 in Skokie. Stranz pulled out a 3-1 win.
RIGHT: Niles West's George Tripkos (right) wrestles Niles North's Isaiah Tate on Jan. 15 at Niles West. Tripkos earned a 3-1 win in overtime to help the Wolves earn a 34-22 win. |
PHOTOS BY NIC SUMMERS/FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP

Later, Wolves senior Cameron Greenstein trailed 5-0 at the start of the third period, but he rallied to beat senior Andrew Hoegen 6-5 at 152 pounds. Greenstein's win put Niles West ahead 22-12.

Those three helped fuel the enthusiastic Wolves, who were energized throughout the meet. Niles West's fans were, too, and Tripkos said the Jan. 15 dual was the loudest he's heard the Wolves' home gym in years.

"When you see kids stand up yelling, throwing chairs around — we broke a chair the first 10 minutes — that's the kind of energy we need in every dual," Tripkos said. "We haven't had that yet. No dual has been this close."

NILES NORTH

ELDER STATESMAN

Abraham uses his experience to his advantage during senior season

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Special to the Tribune, @VanDrilSports

SKOKIE — Niles North 106-pounder Hermez Abraham has caught flak for something that's worked in his favor this season.

"I get a lot of jokes about [being a senior], telling me I'm a 30-year-old man wrestling at 106," said Abraham, who's listed at 5-4. "I get that a lot, but it's just my height. I'm really short for a senior. ... I feel like it's an advantage, actually."

Freshman and sophomores often wrestle at the IHSA's lightest weight class and move up in weight when they're upperclassmen.

Staying at 106 has helped Abraham thrive during his senior season. Abraham was the No. 12-ranked wrestler in Class 3A at 106 by illinoismatmen.com as of Monday. His record improved to 22-3 with a pin of Niles West junior Kristian Pehar on Jan. 15. Abraham dominated the match, but Niles West won the dual between the rivals schools 34-22.

Abraham's win against Pehar showed his maturation and development over the last year. He used his quickness and technical ability to build a comfortable 8-1 lead, then pinned Pehar in the second period to earn the full six points for the Vikings.

"I think he's a little more poised," Niles North coach Chris Albandia said. "Hermez last year would have given some points up on a night like this, just off the excitement. ... He's more controlled in that sense, so he's looking to score and he's not overextending himself and inadvertently giving up points."

The strides Abraham has made as he's grown older give him an edge over the younger wrestlers at his weight class.

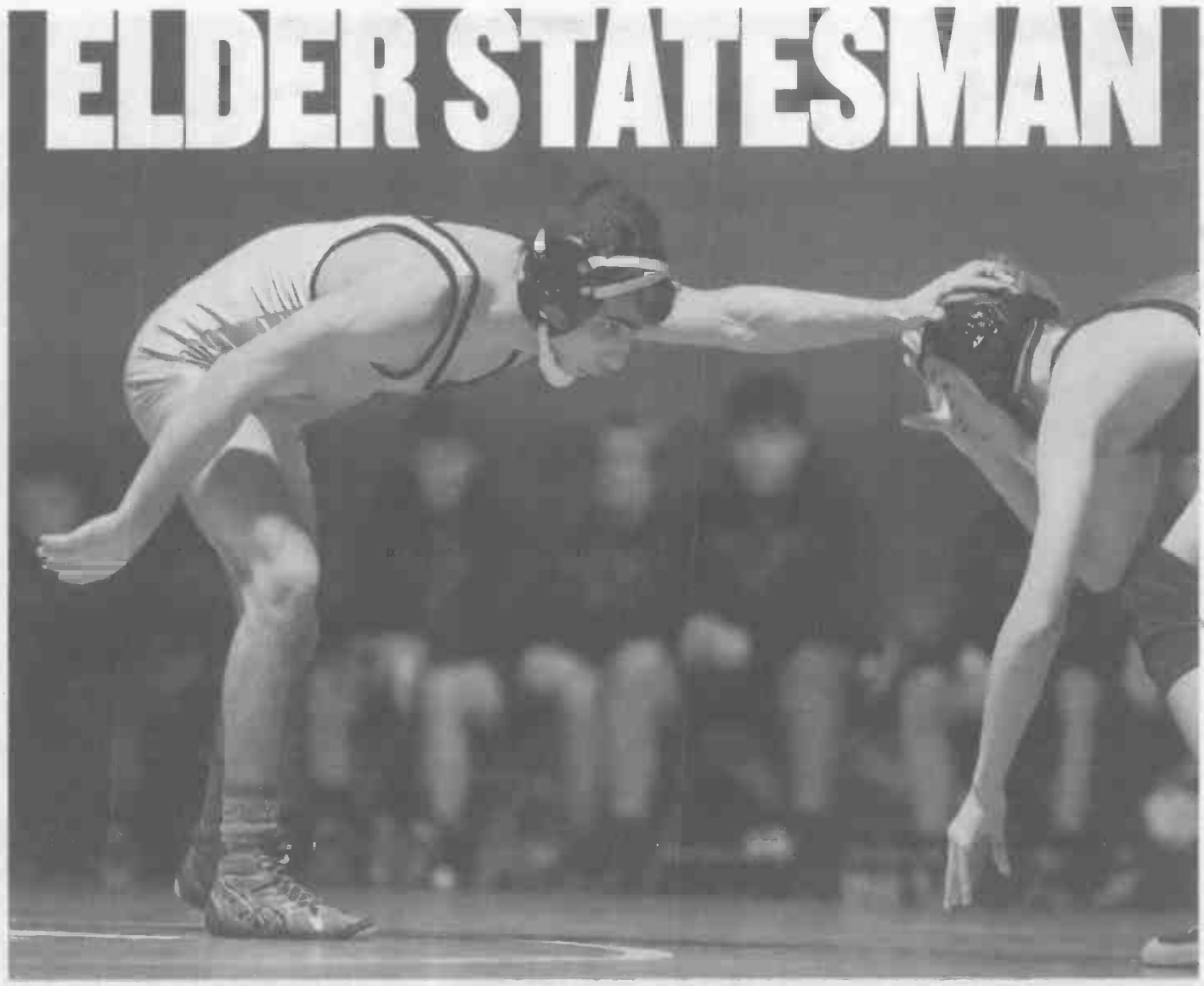
"We've got a lot of freshmen and sophomores coming in [at 106] and I have that high school edge over them," Abraham said. "When they come in and see that spotlight, they might get nervous, but I've seen it before."

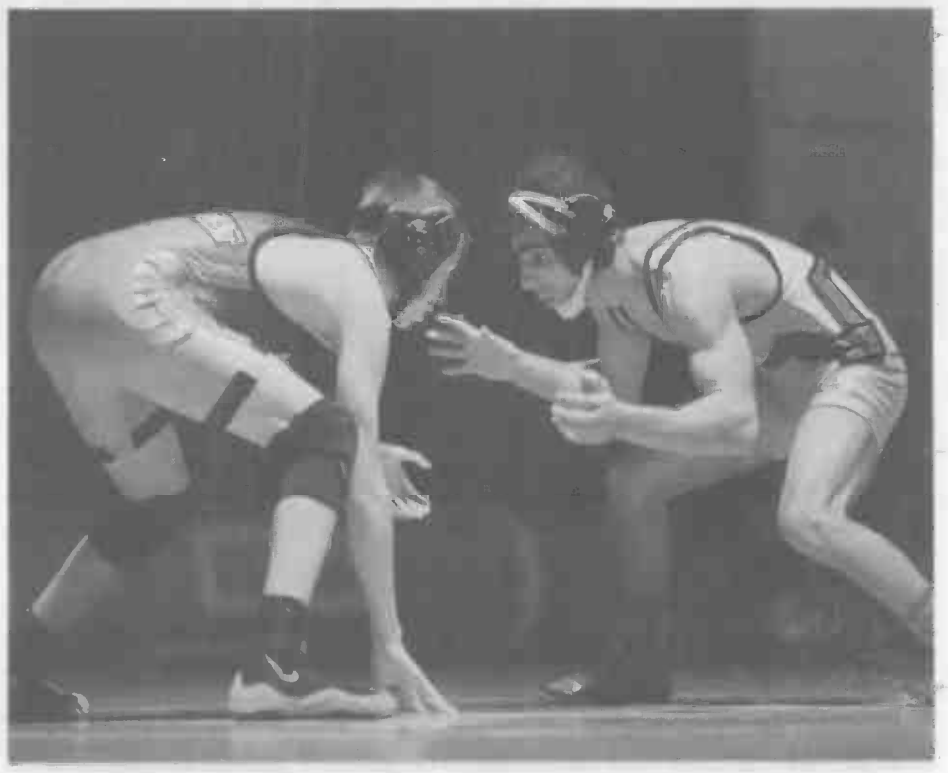
There are upperclassmen who wrestle at 106, of course, including several Abraham could meet in the Class 3A Glenbard North Sectional.

The Glenbard North Sectional is loaded at 106. It has five of illinoismatmen.com's top 12 wrestlers in Class 3A at 106: Glenbard North senior Kirk Johansen (No. 1), Oak Park-River Forest freshman Tony Madrigal (No. 2), Schaumburg junior Hazen Rice (No. 5), St. Charles North sophomore Kolbe O'Brien (No. 11) — who beat Abraham 8-1 earlier in the year — and Abraham.

Abraham's goal is to place at the state tournament, he said. Finishing in the top four at the sectional to advance to state will be a tall task — assuming he makes it out of the regional — but the experience, poise and skill he's developed over the last four years figure to help him in that strenuous setting.

"There are some heavy hitters at his weight class, so more than anything the big thing is we have to be wrestling out of our mind on that specific day," Albandia said. "He needs to be doing his best wrestling at that point."

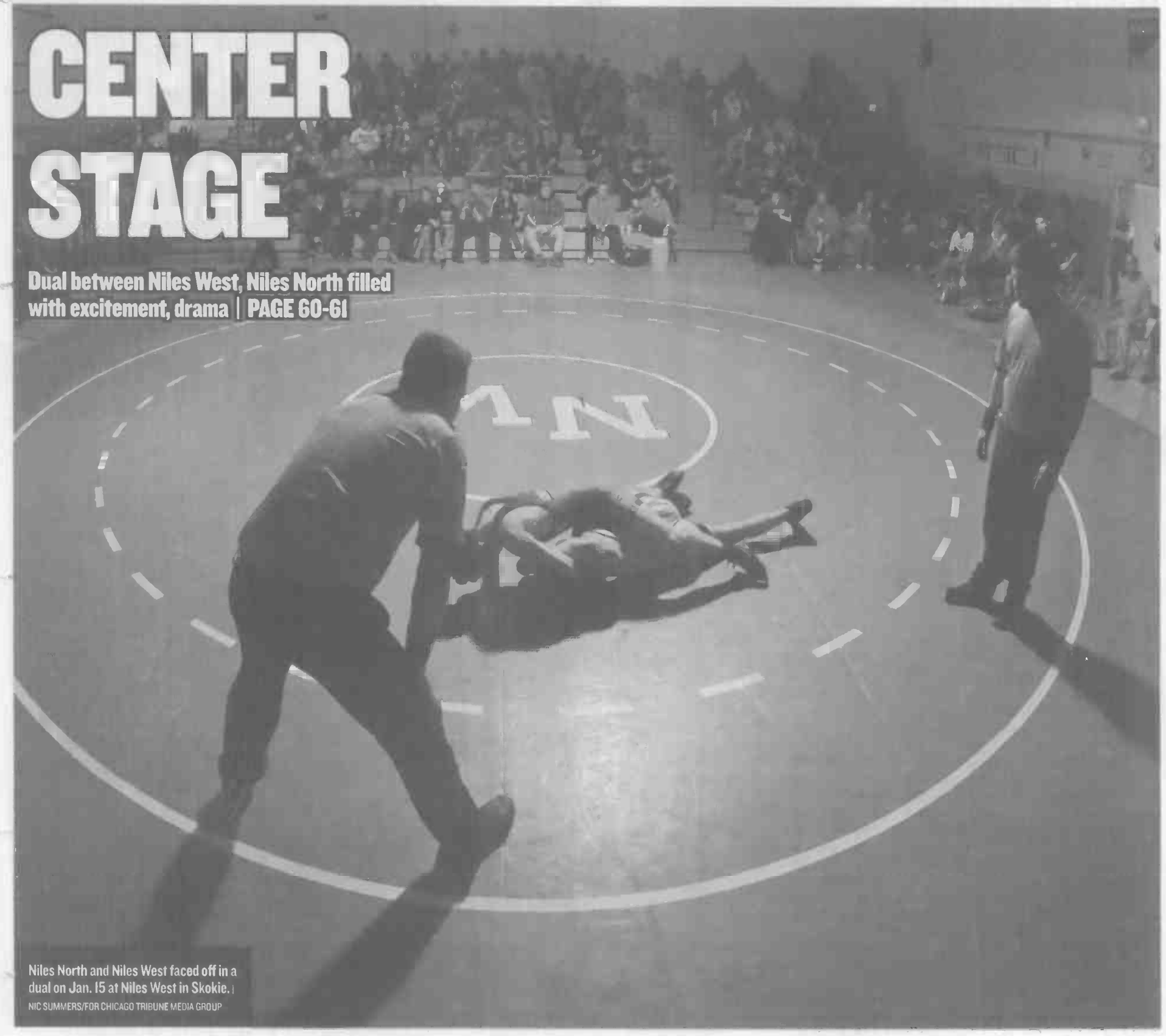




ABOVE: Niles North's Hermez Abraham (left) wrestles Niles West's Kristian Pehar at 106 pounds during the Jan. 15 dual at Niles West. Abraham pinned Pehar, but the Vikings lost 34-22. **RIGHT:** Niles North's Hermez Abraham (right) is ranked No. 12 at 106 pounds in Class 3A by illinoismatmen.com as of Monday. | PHOTOS BY NIC SUMMERS/FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP

CENTER STAGE

Dual between Niles West, Niles North filled with excitement, drama | PAGE 60-61



Niles North and Niles West faced off in a dual on Jan. 15 at Niles West in Skokie. |
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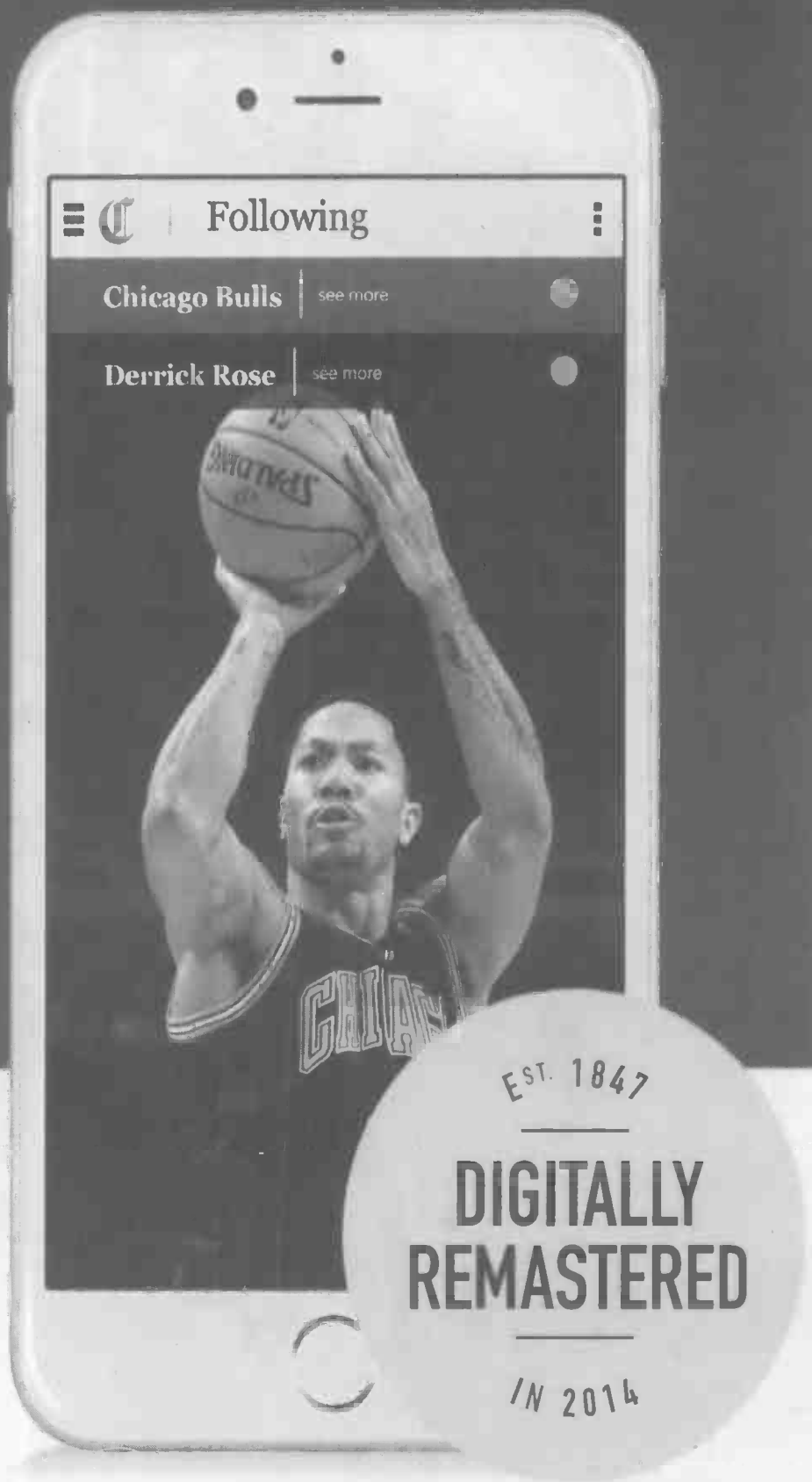

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