Exploring cultures
Maine East hosts annual International Celebration. Page 10

From left, Shivangi Patel with her brother Neel Patel and Urvi Chawada take a selfie during the International Celebration March 14 at Maine East High School.

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Easter brunches in the 'burbs
Get a sampling of some specialties that local restaurants are cooking up this April 5. Page 34

SPORTS
March Madness
Area athlete shines in NCAA Tournament. Page 49
CAMPAIGN 2015

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As the April 7 elections near, find all the latest news on your local races in print and online at chicagotribune.com/suburbs.

After the polls close, get the most up-to-date results with the Chicago Tribune Election Center at elections.chicagotribune.com.

Inside this week's edition

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All of your favorite crossword puzzles and word games—including a bonus fourth crossword exclusive to our weekly newspapers—now are located in the middle of the Pioneer Press Classified pullout section.

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Niles library considers doing away with late fees

BY IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

Niles Library Board President Morgan Dubiel has proposed eliminating fines patrons may be charged in between renewals.

Under the current policy, patrons can renew books a few days after they are due, but they still get fined for two days. Dubiel argued that, unless somebody else reserved a book, there was no reason to penalize patrons.

But Interim Director Susan Lempke said that the current library-checkout system makes it impossible to remove fines under certain circumstances - the library would have to either keep the fines or remove all fines altogether.

She noted that there is precedent for a library removing late fees but keeping penalties if patrons keep the books for too long. After some discussion, the board decided to keep discussing the proposal at future meetings.

Dubiel is running for re-election in April 8 municipal election. Board members Chris Ball and Linda Ryan are also running, as are new candidates Patti Rozanski, Patrick Leonard and Tim Spadoni. Leonard and Spadoni attended the March 18 board meeting as residents.

During the meeting, Dubiel proposed not charging late fees to patrons who renew items a few days after the due date. He argued that, so long as nobody else wants the item in question, there is no reason to penalize them.

"If you have an item and nobody [else] wants it, you got another week to read it," Dubiel said. "But you get a fine sitting there. It seems unreasonable."

Trustee Karen Dimond spoke out strongly against the proposal, arguing that it would set a dangerous precedent. Once the library suspends fees for a few days, she said, what's to stop the library from extending it to a week, two weeks, even a month.

"There would be no accountability," said Dimond.

Ryan, who works as a head librarian at the Maine South High School library, said that her school implemented something similar to Dubiel's proposal.

"Our library has a two-day grace period for fines," she said.

However, Lempke said that the library's current software would make something like that impossible.

"If the two villages decide as partners to purchase water from Evanston, the people of the future will reap benefit but it's good for people of today too, because the cost savings over Chicago is huge. Even with the debt you're going to pay in the long run, you're still way ahead."

-Dan DiMaria, Morton Grove Mayor

With a Chicago water transmission system and associated expenses building only a new water main down Harlem Avenue. Though Glenview has withdrawn its offer for Niles, it is still offering to build a pipeline with enough capacity to serve the water needs of Morton Grove alone.

Morton Grove's contract for Chicago water expires in 2018, while Niles' water contract with Chicago does not expire until 2019, putting Niles under less pressure to act immediately.

"I understand that Glenview has a timetable, but for Niles to make a fair decision, they have to analyze data," said Dan DiMaria, Morton Grove's Mayor. "This is not something you rush into. This is a monumental decision for a village, and it needs due diligence."

Niles Village Manager Steve Vinezeano says notwithstanding Glenview's pulling back its offer, his village is looking to continue the partnership with Morton Grove.

The Morton Grove and Niles group will continue to move forward," he said.

If the two villages decide as partners to purchase water from Evanston, there would be higher upfront capital costs because they would need to build a longer length of pipeline. Evanston has offered to let the villages buy water directly from its water treatment plant, but digging up streets to lay pipes is an expensive proposition.

"All options at this point will be a financial undertaking," Vinezeano said. "There is no cheap option."

He noted there would still be significant savings over continuing to buy water from Chicago, though.

Morton Grove's DiMaria suggested it is almost a rent vs. own situation - renting being buying water from Wilmette/Glenview, and owning meaning building a pipeline from Evanston.

"We would own the pipeline and Park Ridge may come on board," DiMaria said.

"Maybe 30 years down the road Des Plaines comes on board. We have customers versus being a customer."

He stressed that the villages have to look at what's good for their residents, and for return on investment, in the short, medium and long terms.

"You can't be afraid to put in more money up front if the return is great," he said.

"With Niles, more capital is required to lay the groundwork to get water from Evanston. The people of the future will reap benefit but it's good for people of today too, because the cost savings over Chicago is huge. Even with the debt you're going to pay in the long run, you're still way ahead."

Asked if Chicago might consider lowering its rates, DiMaria conceded that it was unlikely, since Morton Grove and Niles combined only count for 2.25 percent of Chicago's water customer base.

DiMaria and Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo formed committees to review the water options, and have also retained attorney Barbara Adams of Holland and Knight, LLC, and consultant William Bailing to advise them on engineering, legal and other aspects of any water agreement.

The villages have to consider engineering feasibility studies of building a pipeline from Evanston, as well as financing options.

They said in a March 16 joint press release they hope to reach a decision within 60 days.
Niles library to launch Wi-Fi rental program

“Igor Studenkov
Pioneer Press

The Niles Public Library is preparing to launch a pilot program that will allow patrons to check out Wi-Fi hotspots.

The hotspots allow users to connect to a wireless Internet network that uses Clear Wireless cellular towers. Patrons will be able to borrow hotspots for up to three weeks, and they can reserve them the way they would books or DVDs. They will get fined $3 a day if they don’t return it on time, and $50 if the device is damaged or lost. The service will be available exclusively to Niles residents.

For the pilot program, which is expected to launch sometime in April, the library will buy five devices. While the current hotspots need to be plugged into a power outlet in order to work, the library may consider buying more portable hotspots if the technology becomes available.

During the March 18 Niles Library Board of Trustees meeting, Interim Director Susan Lempeke and IT Services Specialist Richard Wozniczka laid out the basics of the program. The library has partnered with Mobile Beacon, which provides low-cost 4G mobile Internet services for schools and libraries, to acquire the hotspots. Mobile Beacon gets its devices through Clear Wireless, which was acquired by Sprint last year.

Clear offers two types of devices — mobile hotspots and mobile receivers. Hotspots need to be plugged into the wall in order to work. Once plugged in, they can connect any Wi-Fi enabled computers, smartphones and tablets to the Internet. Up to eight devices can use the hotspot at a time. It also has two network cable ports that can be used to connect computers that are not Wi-Fi enabled.

The smaller mobile receivers can be plugged into a USB port on a computer or tablet. While this gives users flexibility, Wozniczka explained that the devices have less powerful antennas than the hotspots. He said that the staff field-tested the devices and found that they wouldn’t work in many parts of Niles.

“We wanted something that would work for more than half of Niles,” Wozniczka said.

Wozniczka added that while the hotspots need to be plugged into the power outlets to work, they will work in any area that has Clear Wireless towers. So patrons can, for example, take their hotspots on vacation — they would just need to make sure the device is returned on time and undamaged.

Lempeke said each hotspot costs the library a total of $120 per year, with the costs of the wireless service included.

Patrons will be able to check out the hotspots from the Patron Services desk, and they will need to bring them back to the desk. While the devices can fit into the drop slots on the wall, the library didn’t want to risk devices getting broken. Anyone who does return the devices through the slot will be fined $25. Patrons will be able to renew the hotspots once.

Wozniczka touted the pilot program as a major milestone for the library.

“This is the first library in the northern suburbs that’s going to have this program,” he said.

Board President Morgan Dubiel wondered if the devices could be hacked. Wozniczka explained that the hotspots provide a secure Internet connection, and all the patron-specific information gets reset every time a hotspot is turned in. He also said there was no way to install software that would let a third party spy on patrons.

Dubiel also expressed concerns about liability.

“Patrons are going to sign a standard Sprint waiver before checking it out,” Wozniczka said.

Trustee Carolyn Drblik wondered if the program could be used to help local students.

“We’ve seen the issue of students who don’t have Internet at home,” she said. “Can we work with schools that use [Clear Wireless devices provided by Mobile Beacon]? Is it something we can coordinate? It will be put in consideration,” Wozniczka said.

He indicated that the library plans to launch the program April 1. After the meeting, he clarified that it was the date they are aiming for, but it may take longer to actually get it off the ground.

“They’ll be a press release when we’re ready,” Wozniczka said.

He also said patrons may get more options somewhere down the line.

“[Sprint] is going to be taking down Clear Wireless towers and putting in their own,” he said. “We’ll see what kind of options will be available then.”

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Village of Niles sprays trees for pests

IGOR STUDENKOV
Pioneer Press

A contractor hired by the Niles Department of Public Works is currently spraying parkway trees in an effort to prevent cottony maple scale and the honeylocust plant bug infestations.

Every spring, the village hires contractors to spray trees on the public property. If left unchecked, maple scale insects can potentially kill entire trees, while honeylocusts can eat all of the trees' leaves. Maple scale in particular has been a recurring problem in the area. The spraying is scheduled to begin on March 20 and is expected to run until the end of the month.

Maple scale insects are about an eighth of an inch in size and live about 12 months. During the spring, the females create cotton ball-like egg sacs that get attached to tree branches. The new generation of insects hatch in June and July and spend the rest of the summer feeding on the trees. During the fall, males fertilize the females and die off. The newly fertilized females latch onto trees and enter a process similar to hibernation until the next spring.

In a statement to the press, Public Works Superintendent Fred Braun explained that maple scale's feeding process can severely damage the tree.

"The insect feeding causes twig dieback," he said. "The severe infestations can even kill major limbs and occasionally the entire tree, especially if the tree is stressed due to dry weather."

Even if the damage isn't severe, the insects' presence in the trees tends to cause problems.

"Soft scales produce honeydew, which is actually a sugary excrement that gets on car windows and anywhere else under the tree," Braun said. "It attracts ants and wasps to the area and also coats the leaves, which promotes the growth of black, soapy mold fungi."

In order to limit the maple scales' spread, the village hired Bedford Hills, N.Y.-based SavATree care company to spray the trees before the females start making egg sacs. They are using refined oils, which will prevent the insects from feeding on the trees.

In a statement, Braun said the company will give priority to silver maple trees.

"While other trees may be infested, silver maple trees are its favorite host in Niles," he said.

The spraying will also help stop the honeylocust insects, which tend to favor honeylocust trees. Like maple scales, they reproduce on trees. The insects feed on the trees' leaves for their entire lifecycles, but the insects in less mature "nymph" stages tend to do most of the damage.

"Damage can include severe leaf distortion, discoloration and dwarfed leaflets," Braun said. "Severe defoliation weakens the tree and increases its susceptibility to invasion by secondary insect and disease pests."

At worst, honeylocust insects can eat all of the tree's leaves.

Overall, the contractors will spray approximately 3,000 trees.

Igor Studenkov is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
District 63 to host ninth Annual Smartini Night

By Pioneer Press Staff

The District 63 Educational Foundation will host a night of trivia and cocktails during the 9th Annual Smartini Night on Friday, April 24.

The event begins at 6 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar at White Eagle Banquets and Restaurant, 6839 North Milwaukee. The trivia contest starts at 7 p.m.

Emceed by comedian Tony Valle, the event also includes a raffle.

All proceeds benefit Total Learning Community (TLC), the district's award-winning after school program. Each year, TLC serves more than 275 students with affordable after school events from homework help and enrichment programs - from art and music to drama and sports. TLC also offers spring and summer vacation programs, a basketball league, open gym nights, and teen programs.

The maximum Smartini team size is eight people - but guests must be 18 years or older. Registration fee is $25 and the deadline is Friday, April 17. Raffle tickets ($5 a piece or five for $20) are available at the event or from the TLC Office. Winner need not be present. Download a registration form at www.emsd63.org, or call the TLC Office at 847-827-4137.

Through its seven schools, East Maine School District 63 serves a diverse population of more than 3,600 students who live in portions of Des Plaines, Niles, Glenview, Park Ridge, and Morton Grove. More than 65 languages are spoken within the district; approximately 80 percent of the students come from homes in which a language other than English is spoken.

Fire extinguished in Skokie

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

It took the Skokie Fire Department about 10 minutes to extinguish a minor fire the afternoon of March 23 inside a home on the 1500 block of Greenleaf Avenue.

Skokie Fire Chief Ralph Czerwinski said the fire started on a mattress inside a bedroom and the cause was under investigation. No one was injured, he said, but there was one occupant inside when the fire ignited. The occupant was outside by the time firefighters arrived on the scene.

The call came in at about 3:15 p.m. and the fire was quickly snuffed out, Czerwinski said.

An unknown amount of damage was sustained during the fire, which was primarily limited to one room. The house has to be cleaned out from smoke damage, but Czerwinski said he believes it should become habitable again soon.

Road resurfacing to begin this month

Beginning Monday, the Illinois Department of Transportation will be resurfacing Golf Road from west of Potter Road to Washington Street, officials said in a release.

Contractor Arrow Road Construction will complete asphalt overlay work in stages, working from west of Potter to Western Avenue first, then from Western to Washington Street.

This construction will result in lane closures and possible traffic delays, officials said. Residents are urged to avoid this section of Golf if possible. The project is scheduled to be completed Aug. 1.

If you have any questions, contact the IDOT engineer at 773-853-0046.
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.

WARRANT
Joseph J. Flynn, 26, of the 8700 block of Osceola Avenue, Niles, was taken into custody March 13 on a warrant for failing to appear in court on a traffic offense. Police discovered the warrant after Flynn came to the police station to update his mandatory sex offender registration with his new address. Police said. Court information was not available.

RETAIL THEFT
Cedric Vaillacorta-Evora, 20, of the 2400 block of North Kildare Avenue, Chicago, was charged with retail theft on March 13 after he allegedly stole two bottles of cologne, valued at $147, from a store inside Golf Mill Shopping Center. He has an April 28 court date.

DUI
Philip Sangalang, 60, of the 5700 block of Main Street, Morton Grove, was charged with driving under the influence on March 14 after he was stopped for reportedly speeding on westbound Oakton Street. He has an April 21 court date.

THEFT
• A Chicago woman told police that the vehicle she was driving struck a light pole at 8107 N. Milwaukee Avenue on the morning of March 12 after her boyfriend struck her in the head and jerked the steering wheel during an argument. The woman's boyfriend told police the two had been arguing, but he denied grabbing the steering wheel and said his girlfriend might have swerved to avoid a pothole in the road. The woman was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge after complaining of knee pain, but she did not want to sign a criminal complaint against her boyfriend, police said.

DISPUTE
• A woman told police that the vehicle she was driving struck a light pole at 8107 N. Milwaukee Avenue on the morning of March 12 after her boyfriend struck her in the head and jerked the steering wheel during an argument. The woman's boyfriend told police the two had been arguing, but he denied grabbing the steering wheel and said his girlfriend might have swerved to avoid a pothole in the road. The woman was taken to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge after complaining of knee pain, but she did not want to sign a criminal complaint against her boyfriend, police said.

A woman who said she fell down a staircase as she exited a Morton Grove bar two years ago is suing the bar and its parent company for $50,000 in a personal injury lawsuit.

The owners of Bringer Inn, on the 6200 block of Lincoln Avenue, were served March 19 with the lawsuit that alleges the owners failed to properly maintain a rear stairway area where the plaintiff allegedly fell on March 15, 2013.

The woman suing the bar, Lauretta Burke, alleges careless maintenance in the complaint and claims Bringer Inn's management didn't secure the stairway area by neglecting to install functional handrails.

Burke's lawsuit also alleges the bar 'didn't properly illuminate the stairwell or warn bar patrons of the hazardous condition of the change in vertical elevation beyond the door's exterior,' according to the case documents, which were filed in Cook County Circuit Court.

Burke也没能达成协议。她的律师，个人伤害律师Scott D. DeSalvo，未能联系上律师。Burke's management wasn't available this week.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
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Skokie... Spacious, deluxe “North Shore Towers” 6 room Condo located near Old Orchard & Edens Highway! Full amenity building. Newer hardwood floors. 3 brs & 2 baths. Large rooms + huge balcony facing east with beautiful open view and access from both living room & eat-in kitchen. Huge master bedroom could be used as family room. In-unit washer & dryer. 2 indoor garage spaces. Will not last! .......................................................... $229,900

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Visit our website www.century21marino.com
Cultural diversity in Maine Township High School District 207 was again put on display during the annual International Celebration, held March 14 at Maine East High School in Park Ridge.

For the first time, this year's celebration was open to students of Maine South and Maine West High Schools as well. It featured performances ranging from traditional Assyrian and Irish dance to modern Bollywood moves, and food from around the world served up by various student groups.

Maine East has long hosted International Celebration as a way to showcase the school's significant ethnic diversity. Known as a "language minority school," Maine East students are believed to speak roughly 50 languages, with 74 percent coming from homes where English is not spoken as the first language, according to the 2014-15 school profile. The student body is 40 percent white, 34.2 percent Asian, 18.2 percent Hispanic and 5.4 percent African-American.
D219 news briefs: District to drop bus provider contract

PIONEER PRESS STAFF

News from the March 16 Niles Township High School District 219 Board of Education meeting; Niles North and Niles West High Schools.

Freshmen to get newer model Chromebooks

School District 219 officials have agreed to purchase 1,029 Samsung Chromebook 2's, at a price of $234 each, according to school board information.

Districts 219 and 69 agree to modify agreement

District 219 superintendent Nanciann Gatta and District 69 superintendent Quintin Shepherd have agreed to change the terms of their joint Classrooms First Consolidation agreement to remove the $2 million expenditures District 219 expected to absorb this year for the partnership.

Replacing the $2 million figure is looser language that states, “the expenditures necessary to perform the requirements of the agreement.”

The revisions make District 219 responsible for paying for specific areas of the partnership, including for curriculum and instructional materials and supplies, professional development, program administration and support staff, STEM programming and support for IT and analytics.

The revised agreement also requires the two school districts to publish an annual report detailing key accomplishments and annual expenditures of the program.

Classrooms First Consolidation is a new partnership that started between the two school districts last fall.

The $2 million in costs District 219 planned to spend on Classrooms First during the program's premier year has so far only reached $237,000, according to information from the school district.

Backstop fencing to be replaced

The School District 219 board approved a request to sell 228 copies of an old textbook, "The Moon is Down," but three bookbuying companies declined the offer to buy the textbooks.

The books will now be disposed in an effort to clear space in District 219's textbook center, according to information from the school board.

Teachers also declined an offer to keep the textbook in their classes because they are no longer in usable condition, according to school board documents.

School district to drop bus contract

School District 219 will not renew a bus services contract next year with Evanston-based Positive Connections, according to a decision made during the March 16 school board meeting.

The current contract with Positive Connections expires on July 31, and the school district is currently seeking bids for a new bus service provider, according to information from the school district.

Celebrities reinvent themselves, so did we

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Experience the new Metromix.com, now on all of your devices. With entertainment listings that cover the city and the suburbs, we're your go-to source so you can spend less time planning, and more time doing.
Thousands gather to meet Shane Dawson

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

As thousands of teens gathered outside the Barnes & Noble at Westfield Old Orchard in Skokie on March 16, it looked more like the line for a Justin Bieber concert than a book signing.

But the teens were indeed there to get a signed copy of a book that was just released by popular YouTube star Shane Dawson, who visited the store to launch his new book, "I Hate Myselfie."

Like his hundreds of wildly popular YouTube videos that capture the often-awkward struggles of growing up during the teen years, "I Hate Myselfie" is a collection of 18 personal essays that tell of the daily adventures of an introverted and eccentric teen as he tries to make his way through high school.

The 26-year-old southern California native has attracted more than 12 million subscribers to his YouTube channel since he launched his first video in 2008, and today he has the 56th most subscribed channel on YouTube.

Much of his appeal seems to come from his openness to talk about his private real-life struggles with weight loss, bullying and growing up in a low-income family.

Many of the teenage admirers who waited anxiously in a three-hour line that wrapped all the way around the building March 16 said Dawson was an inspiration because of his ability to relate to high school students.

Friends Melissa Valle, 14, of Lindenhurst, and Angel Rivas, also 14, of Round Lake Beach, showed up early and got signed copies of the books well before most of the other people standing in line.

"He relates to us in a special way," Valle said. "He's open about his struggles with depression, and I feel connected to him because I've struggled with depression."

The Hollywood-based Dawson — who recently added a music career to his resume by launching six singles — is best known for his comedic take on serious high school situations and his popular spoofs of music videos and celebrities.

"Adults don't really know much about him, but we think he's funny and inspirational, and he's not afraid to be himself."

— Annabelle Wolf, New Trier freshman

For her own pursuit of a career as a performer, Katherine Donovan, 14, of Chicago, shook with excitement as she waited in line to meet Dawson, whom she described as the inspiration for her own pursuit of a career as a performer.

"I started making my own YouTube films because he inspired me," Donovan said. "He was bullied as a kid, and I think he's just an inspirational guy."

Most adults have never heard of the young Internet sensation, agreed Hannah Spinner and Annabelle Wolf, both freshmen at New Trier High School.

"Adults don't really know much about him, but we think he's funny and inspirational, and he's not afraid to be himself," Wolf said. "I've been watching his videos for a long time, and I'm so excited to finally meet him."

Barnes & Noble wouldn't allow the press to speak to Dawson during the event. Paperback copies of "I Hate Myselfie" were sold for $20 each.

A call placed to Barnes & Noble's marketing department to find out how many books were sold during the event was not immediately returned.
Women's History Month honoree a prof from NU

Northwestern University Professor Darlene Clark Hine, who has spent four decades excavating the untold stories of black women in America, has been named a 2015 National Women's History Month honoree.

Hine was one of nine women recognized by The National Women's History Project, which honors those who have woven women's experiences - often largely ignored or undocumented - into the fabric of history.

“If I can impress upon the historical profession how important it is to talk to and illuminate the lives of people who did not leave written records, but who also influenced generations of women all over the globe, then I will feel that my career is worthwhile,” Hine said.

Last summer President Barack Obama presented Hine with a 2013 National Humanities Medal for her contributions toward African-American history. She called the honor “both a blessing and a profound moment” in black women's history.

Hine’s work focuses on black women “who remained at the bottom of the ladder.” She began searching for their contributions to history back in 1980, when she was challenged to write a history of black women in Indiana. During the six-month project, Hine discovered “a rich legacy of community-building work of black women” in local and private historical collections.

Since then Hine has become a leading expert on the subject of race, class and gender in American society. A prolific writer, she has authored or edited numerous books and publications, including “The African-American Odyssey,” “Black Women in White: Racial Conflict and Cooperation in the Nursing Profession” and “A Shining Threat of Hope: The History of Black Women in America.”

Hine and her fellow honorees will be recognized on March 28 at the Autry National Center in Los Angeles.

Poll workers needed in Cook County for April 7 election

Cook County Clerk David Orr is recruiting poll workers to serve in select areas in north and northwestern suburban Cook County for the April 7 election.

“Poll workers are the backbone of our operations on Election Day,” Orr said in a release. “They are a vital part of our efforts to make sure that voting goes as smoothly as possible, and they are needed in every part of suburban Cook County.”

Poll workers serve either as election judges or equipment managers. Election judges receive $175 for completing a three-hour training session and working on Election Day. Equipment managers, who have more duties, additional training, and must set up voting equipment before Election Day, receive $325.

Prospective poll workers are especially needed in the following municipalities: Des Plaines, Morton Grove, Niles, Park Ridge, and Skokie.

Poll workers serve either as election judges or equipment managers. Election judges receive $175 for completing a three-hour training session and working on Election Day. Equipment managers, who have more duties, additional training, and must set up voting equipment before Election Day, receive $325.

Prospective poll workers are urged to apply as soon as possible, the release stated, because training will be required before Election Day.
Chicago teens are hardworking passionate leaders trying to make a difference in their communities. Share your high schooler's incredible achievements with us so he or she can be honored in our annual 18 Under 18 list.

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themash.com/18under18

THE SKOKIE URBAN BEAT DANCE PERFORMED MARCH 21 AT EVANSTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE WOMEN OUT WALKING KICK-OFF.

Women Out Walking steps into 2015 campaign

BY KARIE ANGELL LUC

The Evanston Health and Human Services Department kicked off the 2015 Women Out Walking, or WOW, program, a 12-week campaign promoting health, wellness, community and physical activity.

The March 21 kick-off orientation took place at Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave. The auditorium and other multi-purpose spaces accommodated 400 women of all ages and fitness levels. Men were in the audience too.

The program, in its eighth year, launched with free exercise and dance classes, workshops, guest speakers and gift bags. Walkers were provided with a pedometer to help them monitor the goal of 10,000 steps per day. The program registration cost is $5. Evanston residency is not required.

Evanston Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl, left, was among the turnout of more than 400 people.

Evonda Thomas-Smith, director of the Evanston Health and Human Services Department, said: "It's a celebration of women who are taking time out for themselves," said Tek. The orientation began in the auditorium where Evanston Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl offered her welcome from the stage's podium. Earlier that morning, Tisdahl had been out walking her dogs.

"I'm honored to be a part of this program," said Kristin Preihs, WOW program coordinator, adding the goal for 2015 is to reach 1,000 Evanston women.

Malik Turley, a 1989 ETHS graduate and belly
Evanston Township HS hosts kickoff event for WOW

Walking, from Page 14

dancer with Hip Circle Studio of Evanston, addressed participants. Many tried belly dancing later for the first time.

"You've got to find something that makes you happy and keeps you moving," Turley advised, adding that a one-hour exercise class typically gets her 4,000 steps, which is almost half of the 10,000-step daily fitness goal.

"I was a completely sedentary being," Turley said, but discovering belly dancing got her "completely hooked. Dancing harder brought me joy, so I danced, danced and danced!"

Dancers from Urban Beat Dance of Skokie, 4055 Oakton St., then took the stage.

"Urban Beat Dance incorporates values of WOW by creating an inclusive and healthy environment for our students," said Elmo Scott of Chicago, Urban Beat Dance instructor.

The power of 10,000 daily steps often occurs in athletic shoes.

"A basic sneaker is the perfect symbol for Urban Beat Dance's hip-hop companies," said Anika Sreenstrup of Glenview, and a Loyola Academy junior. "Lacing up a sneaker and stepping into the studio is a great feeling."

Joe Blanchard, 15, of Evanston and an ETHS freshman, performed with Urban Beat Dance.

"As a young man in dance, I'm a significant minority in almost all of the classes I'm in," Joe said. "You have to disregard the anxiety of trying it and do what you want to do."

Joe said he felt honored to be a part of the WOW tradition.

"For women, the way our culture is set up creates more fear for them, preventing them from doing what makes them happy," Joe said. "I'm here to support them in finding their passions and creating their own lives based on themselves."

Karie Angell Luc is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Starbucks served a cold cup of discussion on race

When I was editor of the Oak Leaves back in the 1990s, I often considered my job as having a weekly discussion about race. Back then, that's what the village was about. When you lived in Oak Park, you knew what you were in for. Talking about race was part of village life. It permeated everything—housing, education, jobs, tolerance, race relations, business life, village employment and representation on the village board, various committees and commissions, and in Springfield and in Congress.

It really was part of the Oak Park lifestyle.

But somehow, talking about race isn't part of the lifestyle of buying an overpriced cup of coffee.

That's why I wonder about Howard Schultz, Starbucks CEO, who wanted his baristas to invite us patrons to have a discussion about race. And forcing them to do it... well, I doubt Mr. Schultz pays his employees nearly enough for that.

Plus, as I found over the years, you just can't have a discussion about "race." The topic is just too big. It would be like asking patrons to write a symphony or epic poem while enjoying their frappacino.

And why now?

Schultz cited issues that have been in the news lately. I guess he meant Ferguson and the University of Oklahoma fraternity. But discussion on those hot buttons won't move the needle forward very much on real issues like segregation, lack of jobs, education, etc.

Like I said, a discussion about race is like writing a grand sweeping novel. There are so many plots and themes and side issues.

An iced coffee drink with a "Race Together" sticker on it is shown at a Starbucks store in Seattle. Starbucks baristas will no longer write "Race Together" on customers' cups, ending as planned a visible component of the company's diversity and racial inequality campaign that had sparked widespread criticism in the week since it took effect.

Just look at housing. Oak Park has been working on fair housing since 1968 and I don't think its reached nirvana yet.

Some will say you've got to start talking sometime. Yes, that's true, but Mr. Schultz came to the party very late. Where has he been all these years? He's old enough to remember Selma and Martin Luther King Jr.

Yet he's finally figured out racism is what ails America after flashpoints like Ferguson?

Sounds like Race Together was more like opportunism than opportunity.

Don't fall for scammers' lure of easy money

I received a phone call from Brice the other day.

Who is Brice, you ask?

Brice is a crook.

I didn't actually talk to Brice. But he left a message.

"Hello, this is Brice from the gift recovery department," he enthused in a bright and chipper voice.

He then excitedly explained he was calling about a contest in which I was entered that has a $25,000 prize.

The contest is over. "But I just need to hear from you as soon as possible to verify some information. Please call this toll-free number. And congratulations!"

A couple of things:

1. I haven't entered a contest. Can't remember the last time I did.

2. I noticed—and maybe you did, too—that chipper Brice did not actually say I had won the $25,000 prize, though he implied I had won when he wished me not good luck but congratulations.

It is illegal to tell someone he has won a prize unless he actually has won one. Brice was gingerly tip-toeing through the garden of laws.

So, those bits of pettifoggery were enough to convince me that Brice was trying to scam me. I could have called him back but I suppose and confronted him, but I fear not only scammers but computers.

Computers being what they are today, I was scared that by merely calling the number Brice gave me I would somehow begin the draining of my bank account and credit cards.

I mention all this to alert you to beware of Brice in case he calls.

You'll tell me that you are listed on the No Call Registry and thus are immune to Brice and his ilk.

But, so am I. Yet Brice found his way to me.

Before Brice finds you, I would sign up with the Federal Trade Commission's No Call Registry. To do so, go to donotcall.gov, or call 1-800-382-1222.

If you are signed up and still receive a call from Brice or his brethren, you can file a complaint at the above website or phone number.

What? You're wondering if this is a scam? You're wondering if I'm Brice and that the phone number I gave sucks you into my lair of scams?

No, I am not Brice. I'm just Paul. I'm just trying to alert you and help you out.

Believe me.

But—you ask—isn't that just what Brice would say?
I recently attended an open house for a gorgeous, Victorian home. It was beautiful from the outside with its big, roomy yard, colorful paint job and inviting front door.

I was so excited to see what this old painted lady looked like on the inside — I hoped it would be as gorgeous on the interior as it was on the exterior.

Then I stepped into the home, and wham — something hit me like a ton of bricks. I could barely breathe. It was the smell of cat pee. The ammonia from it was wafting through the house and sickening. If anyone buys that house, I'll be very surprised.

Pets and their messes are a major turn-off and one of the 10 worst home-showing offenses.

Anyone wanting to sell should get rid of that nasty odor that Fido or Cleo is leaving around the house, even if it means pulling up urinated-on, ammonia-radiating carpeting and sealing the sub-flooring underneath it.

Pet urine odor damage can be expensive if experts are called in, but could be necessary for those tough to get out smells.

Whether you get over the counter products or call in the pros, please don't put your house on the market if it stinks like pet pee. Your real estate agent — and your wallet — will thank you later.
BRAKEFASER.
Made with invigorating whole grains and real fruit to help you move at the speed of morning.

THE BREAKFAST BAR
Colon cancer: Early detection, screening save lives

BY SUSANNAH SPIESS
Special to Pioneer Press

No one ever claimed it’s a walk in the park, but a colonoscopy is not even close to the dreadful experience it is so often made out to be.

Each year 50,000 people in the United States die from colorectal (or colon) cancer. It's the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the U.S. The sad fact is that if everyone older than 50 was screened for the disease, more than 60 percent of the deaths could be avoided, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

Unfortunately, unfounded fear and anxiety cause far too many of those at risk to delay and to delay again their potentially lifesaving screenings. March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and there is no better time than now to schedule colonoscopies for you and your loved ones.

Yes, the prep is slightly annoying: You must endure a day of liquid dieting and take laxatives to empty the gastrointestinal tract. But the procedure itself takes only 30 minutes to an hour, and most patients receive sedatives to counter any pain or discomfort. In fact, many sleep right through it. You can resume normal activities the next day.

Despite common misconceptions, it's not just a “man's disease,” it's the third leading cause of female cancer deaths in the country. So help spread the word: It is just as important for women to be aware of the risks, preventive measures and treatment options as it is for men.

Colorectal cancer often starts from polyps, which are abnormal growths on the lining of a person's colon and rectum. The polyps are caused by a variety of factors ranging from an unhealthy lifestyle to family history. In fact, the risk of developing colorectal cancer doubles for people with a first-degree relative who has had the disease. Age plays a major factor too, and while it is not common for young people to be diagnosed, men and women over age 50 are most at risk. African-American men and women have a higher risk of colorectal cancer than Caucasians, Asians or Hispanics.

The good news is that the disease is very preventable, thanks in large part to colonoscopies - the gold standard of colorectal cancer screenings. Polyps can be detected and removed during the screening procedure, even before they have the potential to become cancerous. If caught early during Stage 1 cancer, the chance of recovery is as high as 90 percent.

By remaining vigilant and undergoing regular colonoscopy screenings, both men and women can improve their chances of detection and treatment.

That's why it's especially important to raise awareness about the risks and encourage your friends and family to get screened. Screening is the No. 1 way to reduce your risk of colorectal cancer. Unfortunately, more than half of Americans between the ages of 50 and 75, the age range when screenings are most strongly recommended, have not undergone colonoscopies.

While early treatment and screenings are vital, a healthy lifestyle is essential for colorectal cancer prevention. It is important to exercise regularly, eat a healthy diet full of fruits and vegetables and, of course, avoid smoking.

These simple lifestyle changes can significantly reduce the risk of colorectal cancer and trigger countless other benefits, too.

In recent years, a greater emphasis on raising awareness has resulted in significant progress. Today, there are more than 1 million colorectal cancer survivors alive in the U.S.

So let your friends and relatives know when and why you're getting a colonoscopy screening, and encourage them to do the same. Together, we can reduce the risk of colorectal cancer.

Susannah Spiess, M.D., is a gastroenterologist at NorthShore University HealthSystem.
### REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

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Data compiled by Record Information Services | 630-557-1000 | public-record.com
HIGHLAND PARK

Custom 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath contemporary boasts meticulous condition. Flowing floor plan configured for family and entertaining. Natural light enhanced by recessed and skylights. Huge kitchen with breakfast bar, great for gatherings and ample counter space for serious cooks. 4 bedrooms, 3 en suite, all with copious closets.

Address: 1990 Mccraren Road
Price: $650,000
Schools: Highland Park High School
Taxes: $13,258
Agent: Gwen Hartsell/Berkshire Hathaway

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Charming 1920s brick bungalow. First floor with open concept features renovated kitchen (2013). Two bedrooms on first floor currently used as family room/office. Three bedrooms upstairs with loft for play or additional office. Lower-level family room. Close to Metra, library, museum complex and downtown.

Address: 830 North Dunton Ave.
Price: $569,900
Schools: John Hersey High School
Taxes: $9,399
Agent: Catherine Harding/Forse Real Estate

GLENVIEW

Completely renovated. New kitchen, bathrooms, windows, granite counters, granite floor in kitchen, bathrooms, fireplace mantel. Open/great room concept in 2nd floor. Master suite has separate bath & storage space on 4th level. 25x7 balcony and three bedrooms on 2nd floor. Two-level deck.

Address: 2515 Victor Ave.
Price: $445,000
Schools: Maine East High School
Taxes: $6,989
Agent: Anne Dubray/Coldwell Banker

LIBERTYVILLE

Home has been expanded. Master suite with soaker tub, separate shower & walk-in closet. Large eat-in kitchen. All bedrooms upstairs. Finished lower level has family room, full bath & rec room. Patio Two-car detached garage.

Address: 328 Jackson Ave.
Price: $439,900
Schools: Libertyville High School
Taxes: $9,088
Agent: Joe Sweeney/Kreuser & Seiler, Ltd.

Listings from Homefinder.com.
Northbrook center focuses on natural stress relief

BY JACKIE PILOSSOPH
Pioneer Press

Dr. Howard Weissman vividly remembers trips he took to Israel as a young boy, where he floated in the Dead Sea.

“It’s a sea where nothing lives except for therapeutic benefits,” he said. “People go there from all around the world to heal.”

Since it isn’t easy to pick up and go to Israel, Weissman said he decided to bring the Dead Sea here, to his Northbrook holistic treatment center, The Chicago Stress Relief Center.

Designed for men and women experiencing chronic or acute pain, depression, anxiety, stress, or chronic illness, the center offers “The Ocean Float Room,” where clients spend an hour floating in a tank filled with 93.5 degree water containing 1,000 pounds of magnesium sulfate, also known as Epsom salt.

“It allows the body to float with zero gravity, which allows every muscle in the body to completely relax,” said Weissman, who holds a doctorate from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology and founded his practice in 1993, moving it to Northbrook 10 years ago. “It turns off the left side of the brain that tends to obsess or worry or be stuck in a place of fear, and activates the right side, which creates a relaxation response.”

The Ocean Float Room, which is manufactured in London, has a private spa-like feel and includes the option for music, skylights and a luxurious rain shower.

“It brings you to a state of complete, deep relaxation,” said Elizabeth Bystrycki, a Michigan resident who scheduled a float while visiting a friend. “My mind goes blank and releases all stress.”

Weissman explained that the benefits of flotation therapy include diminished fatigue, improved sleep, focus and energy, improvement of arthritis, back pain, skin disorder pain and headaches, lower blood pressure, and prevention of sports injuries. He also said the effects are cumulative, meaning the more regularly you float, the greater the benefits.

Michael Fine of Glenview, a client of The Chicago Stress Relief Center, said flotation therapy has helped both his chronic pain and sleep issues.

“You close your eyes and it’s hard to tell where your body ends and the water begins,” said Fine, who suffers from chronic residual limb pain, due to losing his arm five years ago in a car accident. “Because of the deepness of sleep, you shift to an advanced stage of REM sleep, which after an hour gives you the equivalent to seven hours of sleep.”

In addition to flotation therapy, The Chicago Stress Relief Center offers individual, couples and family therapy with Weissman, along with other integrative stress relief services that include Chinese energy medicine, herbal therapy, a far-infrared sauna, acupuncture, deep tissue massage and cranial sacral massage.

“This is a place for people to seek relief of physical and emotional distress in a natural way. They get an individualized assessment of their symptoms and challenges and a customized holistic treatment plan.”

— Dr. Howard Weissman, owner of the Chicago Stress Relief Center

Designed for people experiencing chronic or acute pain, as well as depression, anxiety, stress or chronic illness, the Chicago Stress Relief Center in Northbrook offers “Ocean Float Room,” where clients can spend an hour floating in a tank of 93.5-degree saltwater.

“When clients come to see me, whether it’s for obsessive compulsive disorder, generalized anxiety, chronic pain or post-traumatic stress disorder, they get an individualized assessment of their symptoms and challenges and a customized holistic treatment plan.”

The Chicago Stress Relief Center accepts Medicare and is an out-of-network provider for all other insurance plans.

“Helping people deal with pain and life challenges is what I was put on this planet for,” Weissman said.

The Chicago Stress Relief Center is located at 1440 Techny Road in Northbrook. For more information, visit Stressreliefcenter.com or call (847) 412-0922.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
LISTINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
PLEASE CALL THE VENUE IN ADVANCE.

Thursday, March 26

The Diary of Anne Frank: The classic production explores the life of a young Jewish girl in hiding for two years during World War II. 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday, Writers Theatre, 664 Vernon Ave., Glencoe, $35-$75, 847-242-6000

“Lone Star” and “Laudy and Bourbon”: Presenting two plays depicting life in a sleepy Texas town. “Lone Star” and “Laudy and Bourbon,” by James McLure, both seem to show us a simpler life and a unique perspective on the world. 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oil Lamp Theater, 1723 Glenview Road, Glenview, $17.50-35, 847-834-0738

Congregation Beth Judah Presents Shabbat Speaker, Jeremy Bash: Congregation Beth Shalom Distinguished Speakers Program presents Jeremy Bash on The War on Terrorism: Insights from 4 Years at the CIA and Washington. 7 p.m. Thursday, March 26. 847-869-6477

1968 Democratic Riots: The whole world was watching as Chicago descended into chaos during the turbulent Democratic Convention of 1968. Historian Barry Bradford traces the people, events, and long-lasting effects of this dramatic time. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $10 member, $13 nonmember, 847-977-6030

Seaton Smith: The comedian—a regular on FOX TV’s “Mulaney” — performs standup. 8 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday, 5 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Zanies Rosemont, 5437 Park Pl., Rosemont, $22 plus a two-item food/drink minimum, 847-813-0484

“Outside Mullingar”: Anthony and Rosemary are two introverted misfits. Anthony has spent his entire life on a cattle farm in rural Ireland, oblivious to the longing of his neighbor Rosemary, who hopelessly pines for him as the years slip away. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Northlight Theatre, 950 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, $15-$60, 847-673-6300

Wilmette Theatre Hosts DOC Fest:

See selections from the 1960s and 1970s in the documentary film fest. See website for film times and titles. 2 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, $7.50, 847-251-7424

Harmonizers Open House: The North Shore Harmonizers, a women’s chorus dedicated to singing four-part, a cappella harmony in the barbershop style, hosts an open house for interested female singers. Any level of musical experience is welcome. 7 p.m. Thursday, St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church, 1940 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-454-7535

Friday, March 27

Friday Night Fish Fry at White Pines: The fish fry events feature an all-you-can-eat fresh lake perch dinner. Specialty wines and beer are offered, and a full bar is available. Reservations are recommended. 5 p.m. Friday, White Pines Golf Club, 500 W. Jefferson Ave., Bensenville, $14.99, 630-766-0304

Nia: Holistic dance fitness: With Nia develop flexibility, agility, mobility, strength, and stability in your body. 11 a.m. Friday, Monday, Wednesday, Ray- diant Day, 1400 Greenleaf St., Evanston, $11 drop-in, $80 unlimited class pass., 847-869-6477

Evanston Children’s Theatre Presents, The Musical Annie Kids!: With equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone. Tickets are sold at the door. 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 25, May 30, June 27. 11 a.m. Saturdays. 847-869-6477

Evantoon Children’s Theatre Presents, The Musical Annie Kids!: With equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone. Tickets are sold at the door. 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 25, May 30, June 27. 11 a.m. Saturdays. 847-869-6477

Meet me on the Red Carpet: Join the Pope John XXIII Parent Association for a Father/Daughter dance with food and fun. The event is open to all young ladies with their fathers, grandpas, uncles or special escorts. Come dressed to impress, black tie optional, and enjoy and evening with the special young lady or ladies in your life. Advance tickets available. 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oldershaw Hall, 806 Ridge Ave., Evanston, $30-$40 per couple, $10 for each additional child. 847-331-7859

Pre-Passover Community Shabbat Dinner: Join us for a pre-Passover Shabbat dinner with guest speaker, scholar-in-residence Rabbi Shmuel Klatzkin, who will speak about his journey from Reform Seminary to Chabad Emissary. A personal story of one man’s spiritual journey and a look at all of our lives being. Advance registration required. 6:15 p.m. Friday, Lubavitch Chabad of Northbrook, 2095 Landwehr Road, Northbrook, $22 Adult, $9 Child, $180 Sponsor, 847-564-8770

Last of the Red Hot Lovers: Emergent Theatre Co. presents Neil Simon’s play directed by film and television star Robert Costanzo. The production preview Thursday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m. and runs March 27-April 19. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at www.emergetheatre.org, by calling (773) 729-7294. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, JCC Chicago - Mayer Kaplan JCC, 5050 Chicago Ave., Skokie, $20 adults, $10 seniors/students with ID, 773-729-7294

A Midsummer Night’s Dream: Lightening, an adventurous new theatre company based in Chicago and the North Shore, announces its new production of A Midsummer Night’s Dream. The show opens March 13 at the historic Winnetka Chapel and will run Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. through March 28. This uniquely bonkers production is an event that audiences of all ages will enjoy. Visit the website for tickets: 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Winnetka Chapel, 630 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka, $20 & $10 for students and industry, 847-331-3960

Saturday, March 28

Evanston Winter Farmers Market: Shop for fresh produce and other local goods at the winter market. 9 a.m. Saturday, Evanston Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd., Evanston, free, 847-328-7678

Red Door Animal Shelter’s K-9 Egg-stravaganza: Bring your pup to the annual Dog Easter Egg Hunt. Prizes and photo opportunities available. All proceeds benefit the animals at Red Door Shelter in Roger’s Park. 1 p.m. Saturday, Red’s Place, 2120 Ashland Ave., Evanston, $10, 847-920-8739

Breakfast with the Bunny: Eat breakfast with the Easter Bunny, partake in an Easter Egg Hunt and more. 10 a.m. Saturday, Golf Mill Shopping Center, 239 Golf Mill Center, Niles, $10, 847-699-3070

BusyTown: Based on the whimsical children’s books by Richard Scarry, this musical brings colorful characters to life, including Huckle Cat, Lowly Worm, Betsy Bear and Farmer Pig. Singing and dancing on stage. 10 a.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. Saturday, Northbrook Theatre, 3323 Walters Ave., Northbrook, $10-$12, 847-291-2367

Tefilla Yoga: A prayerful yoga place led by Rabbi Heather Altman, in which you are guided through an exquisite inner prayer service, matching yoga postures and sequences with themes and key words of traditional Jewish prayers. Bring your own mat and dress appropriately for yoga. Saturdays, March 28, April 25, May 30, June 27. 11 a.m. Saturday, Congregation Beth Shalom, 3433 Walters Ave., Northbrook, free, 847-498-4100

Sunday, March 29

Perspectives on Photography by Jeffrey Wolin: Hear Jeffrey Wolin discuss his photographic series, Pigeon Hill: Then & Now. For more than 25 years, Wolin has combined photographic portraiture with handwritten text, exploring issues about memory and identity. Beginning in 1985, Wolin turned the camera on himself, writing personal stories directly on photographs that related to his life. Through Internet searches, word-of-mouth and visits to the housing complex, Wolin found dozens of people who posed for him when they were young. 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Perspective Gallery, 1310 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 224-200-1155

Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation religious school open house: Anyone who is looking for a Jewish religious school for their children grades Pre-K and up can come see what the Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation in Evanston has to offer. 9 a.m. Sunday, Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation, 303 Dodge Ave., Evanston, free, 847-328-7678

Story and song with Kelly Bosworth and Beth Horner: Join singer-songwriter Kelly Bosworth of Portland, Oregon, and special guest storyteller Beth Horner for an evening of stories and song. 7 p.m. Sunday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston.
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bidding and playing in a stress-free environment. Sign up with a friend or partner, or come to meet new ones, to be playing bridge at the end of the session. Phyllis Bartlett, ACBL Accredited teacher, guides the class. Contact the Park Ridge Senior Center. This is an eight week class, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Park District - Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, $86, 847-692-3597

Wednesday, April 1

Finding Nemo: The Interactive Family Movie Experience: Come in costume and be a part of the movie. We provide props, snacks, and fun... you bring a blanket and enthusiasm. Special treats provided by Whole Foods Market Northbrook. Registration required. 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

St. Haralambos Philoptochos Spring Bake Sale: The Ladies Philoptochos Society of the St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church, hosts a Spring Bake Sale. Featured are sweet tourekhi bread, koulouraki, lambathes and Easter gift baskets. Home-made Greek pastries are also available. A Lenten lunch served both days, and a sit-down coffee shop is provided. Call for a pastry order. 9 a.m. Wednesday, Holy Taxiarhai-St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church, 7373 North Caldwell Ave., Niles, free, 847-647-8880

Guided Meditation: Om Johari teaches meditation techniques. Relax, renew, refresh and experience the stress-relieving benefits of meditation during guided sessions. 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Bernard Weinger Jewish Community Center Men’s Group: The Mens Club meets throughout the year on Wednesday mornings. "For adults 55+ Every week there’s a stimulating new topic for the guys to talk about at the J. The JCC Mens Club gives one an easy way to meet up with others for fellowship and intellectual stimulation. Enjoy the camaraderie while coming together for a broad range of interesting programs and lectures. There’s always something new to learn! The club resumes Jan. 14, 2015 - June 24, 2015. Meeting from 10-11:30 a.m. .10 a.m. Wednesday, Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Dr., Northbrook, free, 224-406-9200

Have an event to submit? Go to chicagotribune.com/calendar
Oscar party raises $50,000 to support Siskel Center

The Event Hollywood did not have dibs on Oscar-fever on Feb. 22. Nearly 300 haute-coutured guests gathered to watch the 87th Academy Awards telecast across the Gene Siskel Film Center's big screens.

The custodians of the legendary film critic's memory recognized four of Chicago's own filmmakers: Bob Hercules of Evanston, Frank Ross of Westmont, Daniel Nearing of Chicago and Seth McClellan of Oak Park.

"Hollywood on State: A Red Carpet Celebration" is the only Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences-sanctioned viewing party in Chicago and all proceeds go to support film programming and educational initiatives of the Gene Siskel Film Center.

Cause Célèbre: "It's a wonderful way for the film center to raise money and really celebrate the industry," said Jean de St. Aubin, GSFC executive director. The center offers 400 movies, 1600 presentations and more than 100 filmmaker appearances each year.

"Many times when you are going to see a movie here, you're also going to meet the filmmaker," said St. Aubin.

The event drew documentary-film students from Northwestern University like Kelsey Christensen of Evanston, who wanted to "be here in the culture of all Chicago's loop has to offer and watch everything in style."

Hercules noted: "There is a great untapped resource of talent residing in this city that we have the great fortune as Chicago-based filmmakers to draw from."

Bottom Line: The event raised more than $50,000.
‘Dancing with the CBS Stars’ raises $16,000, benefits synagogue

‘Dancing with the CBS Stars’

Benefiting: Operations and programs at Congregation Beth Shalom, Northbrook

Celebrity judges included: Melissa Forman of Highland Park, talk show host on WCI-TV; Caryn Bark, of the one-woman show “Diary of a Skokie Girl;” Ron Bernardi of Sunset Foods, Northbrook

Dance professionals: Fred Astaire Dance Studio of Northbrook

Attended: 250

Raised: $16,000

Location: Congregation Beth Shalom, Northbrook

Date: Feb. 21

Website: bethshalomn-b.org

Elizabeth Rude of Northbrook and her husband Al Alvarez

Ilene Iglarsh (from left), Lorraine Horwitz, both of Morton Grove and Sally Zuckerman of Niles

Harry Zoberman of Northbrook, CBS Rabbi Aaron Melman and Dr. David Hakimlan of Northbrook

Want to see your event in Trend? Debbie Hoppe, Trend editorial assistant, will send you guidelines. Email her at dhoppe@pioneerlocal.com.
La-Z-Boy addresses another quality complaint

Dear Help Squad,

I read a Help Squad column about someone who made a purchase at La-Z-Boy Furniture. They were not happy with the quality of a chair they purchased. I thought I was reading my own experience through the eyes of someone else. I bought two chairs ($889 each) and a sofa ($899) from La-Z-Boy that were delivered in August 2011. By October of 2011 the fabric on one of the chair arms had come loose. I called the store and was rudely told I had to call Customer Care. I asked, "So if I want my money back would that be possible?" I was told if problems arise once the product leaves the store, all correspondence must be with Customer Care.

I called Customer Care and was told because I'd had the furniture for 60 days, they could not prove whether the damage came from me or the manufacturer. I said, "You can't just sell someone a damaged product then blame the customer without coming out and inspecting it." After 30 minutes she finally agreed to send someone out. The guy who came said staples had come loose so he re-stapled the fabric. The same problem was occurring with the other chair so he stapled that fabric as well.

I was so upset about the purchase I wanted my money refunded. I called Customer Care again in October requesting a refund and was told that would never happen; La-Z-Boy is not like other merchants because their furniture is custom-made, so there is no way to re-sell the furniture. I asked why La-Z-Boy didn't tell me that up front because if I had known the policy I would have gone to another store.

By April of 2012 I noticed the cushions were beginning to give out on all three pieces. I called Customer Care again and was told, "It has been eight months since you purchased that furniture. You can't sit on it all this time and expect a refund." I stated the quality was not up to par from the time I received it and said I had started calling right away, which should have been noted in the phone log. The Customer Care representative said she would send me new cushions for the sofa even though she was not supposed to.

I knew it had been three years, but custom-built furniture is not supposed to look like I have had it for years.

Jacqueline, Oak Park

Upon receiving Jacqueline's email, we turned to Amy Hellebuyck, La-Z-Boy's Manager of Brand Marketing & Public Relations. Amy had helped us with our previous La-Z-Boy complaint. She was on vacation when we contacted her, but promised to do some digging and get back to us the following week. Upon Amy's return to the office, Jacqueline received two calls from La-Z-Boy's Comfort Care team. The first was to gather information on what had transpired from August 2011 to the present; the second was to offer Jacqueline a solution.

Following these calls, Amy reported, "I believe we finally have resolution. As you know, La-Z-Boy is committed to customer satisfaction. While Jacqueline's complaint is inconsistent with the information we have on record, and it's been several years since we've had any correspondence with her, our Comfort Care team reached out to try and resolve. Through the discussion, we were able to offer her a $500 refund on her product that she accepted."

When Help Squad contacted Jacqueline to confirm, she stated, "[Comfort Care] called me back today and offered me $500 to settle. I knew they would not refund me all my money -- which I would not have asked for -- but because of the quality of the furniture, I wished they would have taken it back or at least examined and repaired it instead of refusing to do anything. With that said, I will accept what they are offering and not shop there again. Thank you again for your help."

Need help?
Are you the victim of fraudulent business practices? Is someone 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.

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist or Pioneer Press.

La-Z-Boy addresses another quality complaint

We are never, ever, ever getting back together. Like ever.

Taylor Swift said it best in her 2012 hit song, "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together."

"This is exhausting" is one of the lines taken from the song about an on-again, off-again couple riding an emotional roller coaster of temporary highs that continually come barreling down every other week like the Goliath at Great America.

Several years ago, I had a friend who was in an on-again, off-again relationship, and every time I would run into him my first question would be, "Pam or no Pam?" Meaning, "Is Pam currently your girlfriend or are the two of you broken up? Again?"

This went on for several years, and eventually my friend and Pam broke up for good. If I'm not mistaken, I think Pam is now married to someone else now.

What I want to know is, why do some couples fall into this pattern? In other words, what keeps them coming back? Stupidity or true love?

For help on the subject, I turned to Anita Chlipala, a licensed marriage and family therapist and the founder of her Chicago-based practice, Relationship Reality 312.

She said the root of couples breaking up usually stems from one or both of the people being dissatisfied in some way, with countless possible reasons. They also might break up because one or both wants to date other people, perhaps to see if there is someone better out there for them.

But what if time goes by after the breakup, and one day one of them picks up the phone and basically says, "I'm not done?" Then

Jackie Pilissoph
Love Essentially

What?
"Reasons people might get back together include lingering feelings, fear that they won't find someone else, loneliness and feelings of missing the companionship and familiarity," said Chlipala, who has been a relationship therapist for nine years. "They could also go on several bad dates and start thinking their ex is the one!"

Chlipala said that before couples get back together, she encourages them to answer the question: What would be different this time around? Otherwise, they won't be able to break that pattern.

"They need to identify the problems, get to the underlying issues, be clear about their expectations, needs, and wants in the relationship, and clearly communicate these desires," she said. "Once they establish what they need and want, they must be accountable in their parts."

What I'm getting from Chlipala is, love isn't for no one. If you get back together under the same circumstances, without having the conversations and making the changes your partner needs and wants, you'll undoubtedly be broken up again in two weeks.

Chlipala, who holds a master's degree in marital change things.

That said, there are always going to be certain things couples can't change or are not willing to change. In those instances, it comes down to two choices: accept it or walk away. But if you walk away and get back together, I almost bet you will walk away again, saying, "We are never, ever, ever, getting back together. Ever."

Jackie Pilissoph is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

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BY NICOLE RUPERSBURG

Revere's Wells Street Tavern, Delafield ©HOLLY LEITNER
ON THE COVER: PIERHEAD LIGHTHOUSE, KENOSHA, ©KENNETH KEIFER
Lake Geneva welcomes the luxurious Allyn Mansion Bed and Breakfast

The historic Allyn Mansion, regarded as one of Wisconsin’s most remarkable homes and recipient of the nation’s most prestigious prize for historic restoration, reopens as a luxury bed and breakfast in April 2015.

The Allyn Mansion Bed and Breakfast offers large, fully-furnished suites with period antiques, gourmet breakfasts, a nightly wine and craft beer reception, state-of-the-art technology, luxurious bedding, fine linens and warm hospitality within a magnificent structure.

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AS A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF THIS BEAUTIFUL MIDWESTERN STATE, I am delighted to present this issue of Experience Wisconsin magazine. Our publication showcases a bounty of activities, attractions, accommodations and events your neighbor to the north has to offer. It is exciting to share ideas for a spring or summer getaway — from exploring The Great River Road on the western side of the state to enjoying the beautiful golf courses of Lake Geneva to sampling your way through the state's best Bloody Marys!

In just a few hours' drive, you can unwind at world-class spas, take in some of the most beautiful pastoral scenery imaginable, treat yourself to nationally renowned restaurants and experience amazing events where the office workload and chaos of home schedules seem millions of miles away.

Whether you are traveling with your partner and seek tranquility, or you have teenagers in tow that require high-energy, action-packed thrills, Wisconsin delivers year-round. This issue highlights the many spring and summer adventures available now, so read on. Watch for our Fall/Winter edition in September, when we'll explore a variety of ways to enjoy winter in Wisconsin.

So pack up the car and escape for a day, weekend or an extended stay in our beautiful state, with so many experiences just waiting to be discovered.

Barb Krause
Publisher
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**MAY 16-17**
The festival honors the tasty, yet sometimes elusive fungi. Enjoy fried morels at the festival or purchase some onsite to take home and enjoy. A variety of activities are scheduled throughout the weekend, including a 5k and 10k run/walk, guided tours of nearby effigy mounds, arts and crafts fair, flea market, steak feed, fireworks and much more. muscoda.com

**AUG. 13-16**
The PGA's final major of the season returns for the third time to Whistling Straits' Straits Course at The American Club near Sheboygan. Find all of golf's big names at this major event. A challenging, yet scenic course overlooking Lake Michigan, Whistling Straits will test the game's elite. pga.com

**AUG. 29-30**
Everyone gets into the spirit for this 41st annual festival where thousands compete to become the champ. The current state record is 248 feet. Just don't forget to bring the Purell with you! Live music, food, 5k and 10k fun walk/runs and arts and crafts fair. wiscowchip.com
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Every spring, Door County visitors look forward to its cherry orchards, gardens, roadsides and fields bursting to life with gorgeous, fragrant blooms. Take advantage of special Season of Blossoms lodging packages, and start planning that fishing trip, girls' weekend or romantic getaway. doorcounty.com

MAY 22-25

Who wouldn't enjoy a festival centered around chocolate! Find everything from chocolate eating contests, chocolate samples, cooking demonstrations, carnival, music, kids' area and more. chocolatefest.com

MAY 24

Watch these garden tractors zip around an oval track during this unique annual event. Six classes of competition are available, including a kids' class. Sponsored by the Fifield Fire Department. www.tn.fifield.wi.gov

MAY 24-SEPT. 6

Racine Art Museum features an exhibit specifically addressing the science fiction and fantasy-based themes of Doctor Who, Star Wars, Superheroes and Steampunk. Come dressed in character to receive free museum admission during the duration of the exhibition. ramart.org

MAY 29-JUNE 7

Come to the lake to welcome summer with 10 days of delicious dining. Try new restaurants and return to your favorites for fabulous three-course menus. Check out the special lodging packages and all of the events being held throughout the week. lakegenevawi.com

JUNE 5-7

This wonderful family event includes music, food, amusement rides, animal petting zoo, walk/run, parade, cheese tasting, cheese carving demo, cheese curd eating contest, cheesecake contest and more! facilities.org

JUNE 6-7

A fun family event centered around the prized Golden Carp, found in the East and West Twin Rivers of Two Rivers. The Wisconsin Carp Championship catch and release fishing tournament is held over the weekend, where world class carp anglers are fishing not only to be the state carp champion, but to earn a spot on Team USA and fish the World Carp Championship. tba.info

JUNE 6-7

More than 300 kites take to the skies at noon on June 6 to launch this event. See flying demonstrations of gigantic show kites 100 feet long, as well as stunt kite demonstrations from professional flyers from around the Midwest. giftofwings.com

JUNE 12-14

A highlight of New Glarus Polka Fest weekend is the third annual Beer, Bacon & Cheese (BBC), where one wristband entitles fest-goers to unlimited samplings of some of the greatest regional flavors — craft beer, specialty meats and artisan cheeses. swisstown.com

JUNE 15-JULY 31

Enjoy changing daily activities that let you live like Laura and the Ingalls family and friends during this exhibit at Old World Wisconsin. Check out "Ma's Tale" — a new, interactive storytelling experience, shared from the perspective of Waukesha County, Wis. native Caroline Ingalls. wisconsinhistory.org

JUNE 27

A one-mile swim race out and back from Torpy Park in downtown Minocqua. Proceeds benefit the Oneida County Safety Dive Team. minocquaislandswimchallenge.com

JUNE 27-AUG. 8

World-class musical entertainment comes to the shores of Geneva Lake, on the campus of George Williams College. The summer festival presents a mix of classical, big band, jazz, pop and classic rock to audiences of thousands each year. Bring a picnic and enjoy the concert under the stars. Visit musicbythelake.com for a complete schedule of performances.

JULY 9-12

One of the nation's largest French-themed celebrations returns to Cathedral Square park, for this four-day festival featuring live music, an international marketplace.
epicurean delights, the Storm the Bastille Run/Walk, Mardi Gras parades, roaming busker entertainment and a 43-foot Eiffel Tower replica. bastilledaysfestival.com

JULY 10-12

Held at the Old Indian Village on the Bear River Pow Wow Grounds, this annual traditional pow-wow brings tribes from across the nation to celebrate together. Experience the culture and traditions of the Lac du Flambeau community. Enjoy crafts, food and dancing. lacdulflambeauchamber.com/events.htm

JULY 16-19

One of the largest annual Polish and Polka festivals in the Midwest. Enjoy traditional Polka music, food, arts and crafts fair, fireworks and more. pulaskipolkadays.com

JULY 17-18

Colorful balloons take to the skies for this annual festival. Evening balloon launches are spectacular! Enjoy many activities, including a car show, kids’ activities, food, and craft and vendor fairs. waterford-wi.org

JULY 18

"The world’s largest one-day outdoor fish fry" celebration includes a run/walk, car show, parade, arts and craft fair and fireworks. The fish and chips stands are located throughout the fairgrounds. portfishday.com

JULY 18

Participants paddle 1.5 miles on Lake Mendota, portage one mile over the central isthmus and across the Capitol Square, and finish with a 1.5-mile paddle across Lake Monona. Post-race celebration at Olin Park includes live music, food and beverages. paddleandportage.com

JULY 19

More than 60 high-quality artists are featured at this 40th annual fair located at Riverside Park. bmmglass.com

JULY 20-26

Nearly 500,000 enthusiasts and 10,000 aircraft descend upon the Experimental Aircraft Association grounds for this
annual event. Visitors enjoy daily air shows, as well as aerobatics and pyrotechnics. Forums, workshops and demonstrations are also available. aventure.org

JULY 23-25

Participants compete in more than 21 events, hoping to break world records in events such as logrolling, chopping, the pole climb and boom run. More than $50,000 in prize money is distributed, making this the largest payback for lumberjack competition in the world. lumberjackworldchampionships.com

JULY 25

Madison Opera’s gift to the community is a night like no other. In beautiful Garner Park, the stars come out, the light sticks glow in the audience, and singers from Madison Opera’s mainstage season share their favorite opera and Broadway numbers. Free admission. madisonopera.org

AUG. 6-9

Original singer-songwriters, combos and multi-piece bands showcase Americana music at both its most colorful and its very best – from roots and indie rock to country, gospel, soul, R&B, jazz and folk along College Avenue in downtown Appleton. mileofmusic.com

AUG. 6-16

An affordable, family-friendly event that offers a variety of entertainment, food and animal friends. Witness Nik Wallenda attempt his longest walk ever on a wire 10 stories high on Aug. 11! wistatefair.com

AUG. 8-9

Located at Flat Iron Park on the beautiful shore of Geneva Lake. AITP celebrates its 35th year. This is a juried show that spotlights original fine art from over 80 artists from across the country, specializing in media of all types. genevalakeart.org

AUG. 21-22

More than 80 teams are expected to compete at this unique challenge of endurance and skill. Watch the races at Barker’s Island; feast on fantastic food; gather for celebratory music, song and dance; peruse the craft fair; and commemorate the weekend with a time-honored awards ceremony. Enjoy a world-class, multicultural event! lakesuperiordragons.com
General Admission

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Buy General Admission tickets online now at Summerfest.com. Valid for any day and time during public operating hours of Summerfest 2015. Tickets can be printed at home or scanned from your mobile device if the ticket has been downloaded to your phone. This ticket is not valid for admission to Marcus Amphitheater shows.

$45 3-Day Pass

Valid for one (1) General Admission per day on three different days during public operating hours of Summerfest 2015. This ticket can be printed at home or scanned from your mobile device if the ticket has been downloaded to your phone. This ticket is not valid for admission to Marcus Amphitheater shows.

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An easy 10-minute car drive south of downtown is the gateway to Milwaukee's dining and imbibing neighborhood of the moment. In the last three years alone, an artisan chocolatier, small-batch brewery and a martini lounge are among the new settlers, bumping up against a bustling tapas spot with a farm-to-table bent and a romantic French bistro serving delicacies like frog legs.

Lining South Kinnickinnic Avenue and South Howell Avenue, from East Oklahoma Avenue on the south to East Lincoln Avenue north, are no less than a dozen restaurants. Their common thread is intimacy. These are not boisterous, spacious eateries. Instead, one cozies up to a small table inside the living-room-style space of Lazy Susan - open since April of 2014 - where white lacy curtains hang in the windows and the chef dishes up interpretative plates like Swiss-chard pancakes and rabbit mole tacos. Or one slips into the long, narrow space that became The Vanguard in late October for a mid-day Bellomo Italian (pork sausage topped with fennel, pesto and Wisconsin's own Sartori Sarvecchio Parmesan).

It's an air of unpretentiousness that drives these spots, and nowhere is that more true than at Goodkind, tucked into a residential neighborhood on South Wentworth Avenue, inside a former pizzeria. Several seasoned restaurant employees teamed together to open the farm-to-table restaurant last summer. Sourcing from 20-some regional farms, the end results are shareable dishes like seaweed chips with pepper jelly, or a heasty leg of lamb crusted with lavender and anchovy or bacon-and-cheddar risotto or pork-cheek donut (with smoked sugar and chocolate-raspberry sauce) for weekend brunch. Cocktails are just as heralded as the food, including "Wunderkind," crafted with two local spirits (Death's Door Wondermint and Great Lakes Distillery Absinthe).

There's a strong farm-to-table mantra pulsing through many more dining rooms in the neighborhood, including Odd Duck. The day's dinner menu is written based on what purveyors drop off that morning. Open since 2012, the globally inspired tapas menu dances between selections like pickled raw and roasted carrot salad with burrata and arugula puree, or smoked duck breast donburi with orange miso broth and togarashi (chili peppers from Japan). It is thoughtfully divided into Animal and Vegetable categories so carnivores and non-meat eaters can easily navigate. Charcuterie and cheese platters — featuring many local products — are a popular starter for groups. Locals complain that it's tough to get a reservation here but that only makes snagging a table a more coveted experience.
Sweet treats are in abundance in Bay View. Honeypie—open since 2010—is a comfort-foods-driven eatery where the cream pies, frosted cupcakes, cookies and fruit pies are locally famous. (Even vegans can eat the treats here.) For weekend brunch the line snakes outside the door, but it's worth the wait. At Chocobella, open since 2012, the art of hand-painted chocolates is on display. Truffles, caramels and even miniature chocolate purses are decadent delights.

But the neighborhood's shining star is The Avalon Theater, fresh off a $2 million renovation and open since December. The Mediterranean Revival historic theater was last open nearly 15 years ago, and designed by Russell Barr Williamson, a student of Frank Lloyd Wright. It first opened in 1929. Plop into a theater seat and a tray slides out, perfect for ordering upgrades to typical movie fare. Instead, one can order a spiked root-beer float from the cocktail menu or one of six specialty pizzas, for example. There is also a lounge in the lobby serving food and retro-inspired signature cocktails like the Fonzie Old Fashioned.

Proof of Milwaukee's storied suds history is at District 14 Brewery & Pub, which quietly opened in late 2014 near the triangle intersection of Bay View, where South Kinnickinnic and South Howell Avenues meet East Lincoln Avenue. Patrons can sample a beer flight—there are always between eight and 10 on tap, with three brewed in-house and others a strong focus on Wisconsin craft beers. On select nights there are trivia competitions and the menu is limited to pizzas, but what better pairing with a cold beer?

Kristine Hansen is a freelance writer who calls Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood home.
RIVER TOWN

Adventures

The Great River Road offers unique discoveries for your next road trip

By Molly Rose Teuke
Viewed from Buena Vista Park, high on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River, the river town of Alma has the picturesque quality of a child's toy set. Tiny houses and storefronts ordered along Main Street, toy trains clacking along tracks on a narrow strip between river and town, and miniature barges making their way toward Lock and Dam No. 4. The only thing that doesn’t look miniature is the Mighty Mississippi.

The Mississippi River — "great river" to native Ojibwa — is the fourth longest river in the world. It flows through or borders 10 states and drains all or parts of 31 states and two Canadian provinces before emptying into the Gulf of Mexico. It is the inspiration for much poetry, prose and song, including "Old Man River."

Native Americans lived along the Mississippi for centuries — hunter-gatherers, herdsmen and the agrarian mound builders. Though much evidence of Native American life on the river has been obliterated, a few mounds remain at Petrot State Park, where the remnants of Native American activity date back at least 4,000 years. Several museums along the route have artifacts and tell some of the Native American story.

In the 1500s, Europeans arrived as explorers, fur traders and immigrants who settled communities of Swiss, German, French, Italian and Swedish heritage. In the 19th century, the Mississippi and its tributaries helped spur westward expansion. During both peace- and wartime, the river served as a vital transportation and communications route. Capture of the river by Union forces was a turning point in the Civil War, because the Confederacy relied on it as a trade route.

The Great River Road was established in 1938 by FDR to pay tribute to the scenic, cultural and historic appeal of the Mississippi and its environs. In 2000, a four-state segment of the Great River Road (including Wisconsin's Highway 35) was designated a National Scenic Byway, placing it in the company of such iconic byways as Historic Route 66, the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Santa Fe Trail. It's been voted "prettiest drive," more than once, most recently by the Huffington Post.

"While the modern river has been transformed by humans, the most visible being a system of locks and dams, its geologic history is still evident," says UW-La Crosse geomorphologist Colin Belby. The real story of the Mississippi River landscape, he says, began with shallow tropical oceans that spread over the area some 550-450 million years ago. Sediment that was deposited in these seas and exposed as the seas gradually disappeared forms the bedrock of today's landscape. Fast forward to just a few million years ago. During the past 2.5 million years, glaciers repeatedly advanced across much of Wisconsin and Minnesota, abrading the land in some areas and depositing thick layers of sediment in others. Glacial action buffeted the high points and filled in the low points, forming the subtle undulating topography of Northwest Wisconsin.

During the most recent glacial advance, the ice reached its most southerly extent in Wisconsin about 18,000 years ago. From then until 10,000 years ago when the glaciers completed their retreat, glacial meltwater formed rivers and streams, which occasionally got dammed up by ice and debris. Every time one of these natural dams broke loose, a massive outpouring of water caused more erosion in some places and deposition in others, shaping the path of the Mississippi as we know it today.

The Wisconsin Great River Road runs along Highway 35, beginning at Prescott in the north and passing through 33 towns, 50 parks, beaches, recreational areas and water access sites as it winds 250 miles south to its southern gateway town of Kieler.

The route's 33 river towns are the heartbeat of Wisconsin's Great River Road. This is where you'll find the festivals, markets, museums and historic markers that give the route much of its character and romance.

Prescott, the route's northern gateway has a Welcome and Heritage Center housed in a circa 1885 bank building. Two rivers join at Prescott, the clear waters of the St. Croix churning into the muddy

FOR MORE INFO: Download an audio driving tour at wigr.com/interactive/audio-tour.

spring/summer 2015 | experiencewisconsinmag.com | 21
Mississippi. Just down the road, Diamond Bluff is named for distinctive dolomite bluffs that rise above town and serve as a landmark for river traffic. A memorial plaque at Sea Wing Park tells of the tragic sinking of the Sea Wing, a pleasure barge that capsized during a summer storm in 1890, killing 98 of its more than 200 passengers.

The historic town of Bay City lies at the top of Lake Pepin, the first of four towns on this shallow lake. Lake Pepin is formed by a natural dam that occurs where the Chippewa River flows into the Mississippi River floodplain. "The Chippewa River carries a large sandy sediment load, forming a delta where it joins the Mississippi," says Paul Reyerson, another UW-La Crosse geornorphologist. "That causes the Mississippi to back up, essentially damming the river and creating Lake Pepin. This popular recreational lake is the naturally widest point on the Mississippi River, with a surface area of 40 square miles.

Stockholm, also on the shores of Lake Pepin, was settled in the mid-19th century and in recent decades has become an artist's enclave. For over 40 years, the juried Stockholm Art Fair has been held the third Saturday in July. This year, more than 100 artists will showcase their creations.

Next stop is Pepin, birthplace of one of America's best-loved storytellers — Laura Ingalls Wilder. The Little House Wayside, seven miles north of town, has a replica of the log cabin that was the "Little House in the Big Woods," the first of Ingalls Wilder's "Big House" books. In town, Pepin Village Park has a Laura Ingalls Wilder memorial, the Pepin Depot Museum and Pepin Historical Museum.

As we pass Nelson, where the Chippewa River flows into the Mississippi, the topography is older than the glaciated landscape to the north. This part of Wisconsin, known as the Driftless Area, was never covered by glaciers, resulting in bluffs that are craggier and more pronounced. Over several million years, rivers throughout the Driftless Area of southwest Wisconsin carved the landscape, forming the spectacular coulees and bluffs we see today.
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Picturesque Alma is just two streets wide, much of it terraced between bluff and river, with 10 stair-stepped streets running perpendicular to the river. Farther downstream, in Fountain City, you can glimpse a bit of modern geology: a 56-ton boulder crashed into a small house, coming to rest in a bedroom; for a modest donation, you can see it for yourself. You can also visit Seven Hawks Vineyard, one of six Wisconsin wineries on the three-state Great River Road Wine Trail.

At Trempealeau, you can hike Perrot State Park and see the few remaining burial mounds, have lunch at the historic Trempealeau Hotel and watch river traffic make its way through Lock and Dam No. 6. At Holmen, explore the 4,000-acre Van Loon Wildlife Area. From foot trails or from Rustic Road 64 (7 Bridges Road), you can see historic MacGilvray Bridges, seven steel arch truss bridges built in the late 19th/early 20th centuries. The 7 Bridges Road is just one of 24 designated rustic roads within an easy drive of the Great River Road.

The La Crosse Riverside Museum and Great River Road Interpretive Center are worth a visit, along with the Mississippi River Archaeology Center at UW-La Crosse. Here you can even get out on the river for a cruise, aboard the La Crosse Queen.

At Genoa, take a tour at the Genoa National Fish Hatchery and visit a thousand-gallon aquarium of Mississippi River fish species. At Lynxville, the spring and fall migration brings tens of thousands of canvasback ducks to the pool above Lock and Dam No. 9. As much as 75 percent of the canvasback population in the U.S. gathers at this pool.

Wisconsin history is much in evidence at Villa Louis at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin's second oldest community. Nelson Dewey State Park commemorates Wisconsin's first governor, who lived at nearby Stonefield. Both Villa Louis and Stonefield are Wisconsin Historical Society museum sites. And nearby Cassville once competed to become capital of the Wisconsin Territory.

Wyalusing State Park overlooks the confluence of the Mississippi and Wisconsin rivers, with miles of hiking trails and many scenic views. Just south, Potosi has the longest main street in the world, and is home to the historic Potosi Brewery, complete with beer garden, National Brewery Museum and the Great River Road Interpretive Center.

The Dickeyville Grotto is an impressive exhibit of outdoor art, created by a parish priest and his congregation between 1925 and 1930. The collection of shrines and monuments were turned into mosaics, creating an eye-catching display in spiritual and patriotic themes.

Wisconsin's Great River Road is a satisfying blend of history, quirky attractions and countless recreational opportunities from biking and hiking to canoeing and birding. Along the way, the people of Wisconsin welcome visitors to their towns with classic Midwest hospitality.

Molly Rose Truex is a freelance writer who lives, works and plays in Wisconsin's Northwoods.
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Of all the rankings available, the one I give the most credence to is Golf Digest's annual Buddies List, a collection of golf-rich destinations sure to provide your traveling golf group a memorable experience. According to the list, Lake Geneva ranks as the No. 24 finest buddies golf destination in the nation, going head-to-head against such notables as Las Vegas (No. 19), Hilton Head Island (No. 21) and even besting the Greater Chicago area (No. 26).

Lake Geneva's high ranking is a head-turner for sure, as oftentimes small cities never receive their proper due when stacked up against warm-weather metro areas. This phenomenon can be likened to forgetting to be a tourist in your own town even though thousands...
of people visit an attraction that’s right in your backyard.

So the next logical question to ask is how does a city of only 8,000 full-time residents crack the top-25 golf buddies destination list when it is a good hour from any large metropolitan destination? To begin with, it starts with the fact that Lake Geneva is home to a trio of the finest multi-course properties in the Midwest: Geneva National Resort, Grand Geneva Resort and Hawk’s View Golf Course. Combine that with single course gems such as Abbey Springs and Majestic Oaks Golf Course at Lake Lawn Resort, and it’s no wonder Lake Geneva boasts a lineup that’s hard to beat.

Jesse Seykora, Geneva National’s director of sales and marketing, offers his opinion on why Lake Geneva is so highly thought of by the readers of Golf Digest. “What makes Lake Geneva so noteworthy is the ability to plan a completely different golf itinerary for as many days as you want,” begins Seykora. “As a golfer, you are offered such a variety of courses. You can visit as a beginner and ease your way into the game with the plethora of novice courses in the area. On the other hand, a serious golfer will be continually tested with the numerous world class tracks built by some of the most legendary figures in the game such as Palmer, Player, Trevino, Nicklaus and Dye,” concludes Seykora.

Matt Boesch, head golf professional at Hawk’s View Golf Course, expands upon Seykora’s position. “Another reason that makes Lake Geneva the perfect Midwestern golf destination is the fact that there is a lot more to do than just golf. With a multitude of hotels and resorts located on or near one of the many lakes in this area (including Geneva Lake), the golfing vacationer can take a day or an afternoon away from the links and still have a blast. … And in my opinion, maybe just as important as the quality of the courses, is the service and hospitality in Lake Geneva. The friendly Wisconsinite staffs have a genuine pleasantness and enthusiasm to serve that I have not seen in any other part of the country,” states Boesch.

So with all those pleasantries aside, let’s look at Lake Geneva’s golf scorecard and what the traveling golfer can expect when visiting this palatial destination.

Geneva National Resort
Geneva National Resort is home to a collection of arguably the most iconic signature courses in the Midwest, let alone Lake Geneva. Three 18-hole championship layouts grace the 1,600-acre property, one each designed by Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Lee Trevino. Another facet that makes Geneva National Resort so unique is the fact it’s both a private and public facility at the same time. Having a three course rotation allows members to always have one private course while the public is allowed to play the other two on any given day.

A buddies trip just became more memorable thanks to Geneva National Resort’s
acquisition of the nearby Geneva Ridge Resort and The Inns of Geneva National in 2013. The 146-room resort, which overlooks the Palmer Course from high above Lake Como, is the perfect complement to GNR as now guests will be able to take advantage of an all-inclusive Stay and Play experience.

"The opening of Geneva Ridge places us into a completely new category," says Geneva National Resort owner Garth Chambers. "Coupled with our acquisition of The Inns of Geneva National, it puts us among the leading resorts in this region."

genevanationalresort.com

Grand Geneva Resort & Spa
The 1,310-acre facility is highlighted by two stunning designs, The Brute and The Highlands. In fact, The Highlands is the only course in the state to be co-designed by Pete Dye and Jack Nicklaus and is a tribute to the great inland links-style courses of Scotland. The 600-plus room resort was renovated in 2010 and is replete with a full-service spa, five on-site restaurants and their adjacent Timber Ridge Lodge and Waterpark.

"In my opinion, our property sets itself apart

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MORE GREAT OPTIONS

LAKE LAWN RESORT, DELAVAN: First opened in 1925, Lake Lawn's championship golf course — newly named Majestic Oaks — is one of the Midwest's premier golf destinations. Set amid 275 lush, tree-lined acres, the course was masterfully re-engineered in 1990 by renowned architect Dick Nugent and is best known for its stately oaks, deep sand bunkers and subtle undulations. The resort itself occupies 250 acres along the shore of Delavan Lake. It has undergone $2 million in renovations since 2011 and features 271 rooms, the Calladora Spa, 3 onsite restaurants, a marina and airplane landing strip. lakelawnresort.com

ABBEY SPRINGS, FONTANA: Dubbed "Wisconsin's Most Beautiful Course" on its scorecard, Abbey Springs features small, sloping greens and water hazards in play on nine holes. The course's signature hole is No. 17, a 320-yard, par-4, with an elevated tee shot overlooking Geneva Lake. abbeysprings.org

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When it's time to get away, make your way to Lake Geneva.
Playboy Club, we have many guests that come back to our property with great stories and memories. It is our job to create new experiences and memories that will last.”

Hawk’s View Golf Club
The final multi-course property of excellence is Hawk’s View, located just north of downtown Lake Geneva off Highway 120. Opened to the public in 2001, Hawk’s View utilizes all of its 312 acres to create a breathtaking experience for the novice to the Tour Pro alike. Matt Boesch, head golf professional, explains what sets his property apart from the competition. “We are so blessed to be equipped with two distinctly different 18-hole courses; Hawk’s View has something for everyone. Como Crossings, our five-star rated championship course named for Como Creek that meanders through the course, boasts tremendous changes in elevation, including two par-3 holes with 100 feet of drop from tee to green.” states Boesch.

Hawk’s View’s other course, Barn Hollow, is a unique 18 hole, par 3 course that is named for the abandoned nostalgic barn that overlooks the course. “Don’t let the term par-3 fool you into preconceived notions,” begins Boesch. “Built at the same time and with the same standards as its big brother, Barn Hollow is one of the best par-3 courses anyone will ever play. With yardages ranging from 106 to 222 yards, you’ll use just about every club in the bag.”

Glen Turk is a Wisconsin native who has been the senior writer/editor of Midwest Golfing Magazine since 2006. Glen’s ultimate golf goal is to play in all 50 states. You can read Glen’s previous works at midwestgolfingmagazine.com and clicking on the “Past Issues” tab.
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“A Wisconsin Historic Site:
North of Lake Geneva on Highway 67 in Eagle, WI

“Fun Family Day”
Josh E, Trip Advisor Comment

North of Lake Geneva on Highway 67 in Eagle, WI

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Learn about Wisconsin's logging history through live shows, museums and national contests

By Molly Rose Teuke

Like the majestic white pines they cut down, lumberjacks of yore loom large in our collective memory. Timber still represents a key piece of Wisconsin's economy, with tens of thousands of public and private acres under active management for timber harvest. Logging techniques are very different today, but the Wisconsin Forestry Museum and Lumberjack Steam Train in Laona bring early logging history to life.

Next best thing to a time machine

Your visit starts at the historic Soo Line Depot located on Highway 8 just a quarter mile west of the junction with Highway 32, where you'll claim a seat on the Lumberjack Steam Train. For more than six decades, this train carried lumberjacks to and from logging camps along the Laona Northern Railroad.

Purchase your ticket and then it's "All aboard!" for a three-mile ride to the site of an 1890's logging camp, Camp 5, whose name reflects the tradition of naming camps with successive numbers as loggers completed their work and moved on. In 1914, the Lumber Company Farm was developed at the site of Camp 5 to raise meat, produce and draught horses for Camp 5 and other camps of the Connor Lumber & Land Company.

Several historic buildings remain from those early days and are part of the Wisconsin Forestry Museum: an old hog barn (now a petting corral), a blacksmith shop (now part of the museum) and the old slaughter house. Because of its historical and cultural value, in the 1980s, the site was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

At the museum, you'll learn about logging from its heyday to the present in a video called "Northwoods Saga." The Forestry Museum houses an extensive collection of tools and other
artifacts chronicling the hard work of loggers, as well as household items that added a small measure of ease to an otherwise laborious life. Original account ledgers offer insight into the business of the early forest products industry.

Logging was winter work, with snow and ice roads enabling loggers to transport their product with draught horses pulling sleighs piled as high as 30 feet with massive logs. If the sleigh driver was fortunate, he wore a bear coat to keep warm — you’ll see one in the museum.

The combination of hard work and cold temperatures — often below zero — meant lumberjacks needed hearty meals before and after a hard day in the woods. These were big men with big appetites, and among the artifacts in the museum, you’ll see griddles three feet across. At the blacksmith shop, a skilled blacksmith works at the original forge to pound out mini horseshoes for visitors.

Next, hop on a motorized surrey for a half-hour narrated “Green Treasure Forest Tour,” which has won the National Award in Education from the Arbor Day Foundation. Follow the tour with a quiet stroll on the Ecology Walking Tour, a short interpretive trail that leads over an old “corduroy road” and into the forest. There’s also a hands-on Nature Center on site, along with a working 1900 Cracker Barrel Store, and the Choo Choo Restaurant, where you’ll find tables in case you brought your own picnic.

I can chop faster than you can.

The men who lived the rugged, dangerous logging life in the late 18th and early 19th centuries were strong, skilled and competitive. Their work kept them fit and gave them constant opportunity to hone their skills. Occasional sporting contests, coupled with ongoing rivalries, helped them keep their edge and their pride.

Today, logging requires very different tools and skills. Finesse with the controls of equipment worth hundreds of thousands of dollars has replaced skill with an ax or crosscut saw. But skills from the heyday of muscle-driven logging remain alive and...
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Launched in 1960, the Lumberjack World Championships have drawn competitors from several countries — Australia, Canada, the Czech Republic, England, New Zealand, Switzerland and of course, the United States. Given Wisconsin’s strong logging traditions, it’s not surprising that many competitors hail from closer to home. The Lumberjack World Championships are held the final weekend in July and are open to the public.

Another place to see lumberjacking at its finest is Scheer’s Lumberjack Show in Hayward and Woodruff. Many of the show’s performers are champions who have earned world titles. Take Charlie Fenton, two-time world title holder in the classic boom run competition. Or Fred Scheer himself, who held four world titles in logrolling, and one world title in the boom run.

Log rolling? Boom run? These were important skills back in the day, when logs were moved downriver and someone had to be able to break up log jams and keep logs of many sizes flowing profitably to a mill. Though much timber came to be moved by rail instead of water, the lumberjacks’ river arts didn’t die out altogether.

In lumberjack lingo, the art of keeping your balance on a spinning log was called birling. In the modern-day version of logrolling, two competitors — birlers — vie to be the last one standing. They twist the log with their feet, trying to unbalance one another. Bobbing the log and using a kick to splash their opponent is fair game. Crossing the centerline is not. Birlers interested in world titles are not allowed to touch one another.

In the boom run, two competitors race across the water and back on side-by-side booms — logs chained together end to end — without losing their balance and falling in. Fenton earned the nickname “Boom King Charlie” for his prowess at this balancing act.

Looking forward to his seventh season with Scheer’s, Fenton says one of the things he appreciates about the show is the emphasis on family fun. Many families return year after year, he says, and “they love that it’s just the same as they remember it. We really strive for customer satisfaction. We want to see people walking out with smiles on their faces after every single show.”

Molly Rose Teuke works and plays from her home in Wisconsin’s Northwoods.
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Wisconsin bars go over the top in a quest to become the best

By Nicole Rupersburg | Photography by Holly Leitner

In Wisconsin, a Bloody Mary is more of a meal than a cocktail. If you think a Bloody Mary is just tomato juice, vodka and a pickle, these Bloody Mary professionals have a surprise for you ... a surprise so big you might even have to take home leftovers!

Sobelman's Pub & Grille, Milwaukee
Sobelman's is not just the most famous Bloody Mary purveyor in the state of Wisconsin, its Bloody Frankenstein are nationally known! Its "Masterpiece" put them on the national Bloody Mary map a few years back with coverage on Good Morning America, the Daily Meal and the Huffington Post. This monstrosity includes shrimp, Polish sausage, cheese, pickled asparagus, a scallion stalk, pickle, pickled mushroom, an onion, Brussels sprout, celery stalk, cherry tomato, lemon wedge and a cheeseburger (a really good cheeseburger!). It's also served with a beer chaser, as are all proper bloodies. On a mission to best themselves, Sobelman's also serves the Baconado, the Crown Mary (with a Corona tipped over inside the glass) and the Beast, which is basically a bacon, sausage and burger buffet all inside a gallon-sized glass. And if all of that still isn't enough, Sobelman's most recent headline-making concoction is the Chicken-Fried Bloody Beast, which includes everything inside the Beast plus a whole fried chicken. A whole fried chicken. MilwaukeeBestersburgers.com

Bluephies Restaurant, Madison
Any place that calls itself a "vodkatorium" - as Bluephies does — is, by law, required to bring a strong Bloody Mary game to its brunch offerings. Bluephies delivers, and hard. With a "Vodka A to Z" list of more than 40 vodkas from all over the world, including many made in Wisconsin, Bluephies' Bloody Mary menu is ambitious. There are a lot of excellent varieties to choose from, but we're partial to the "Wakey Wakey Eggs and Bacon" featuring a Scotch egg (boiled, wrapped in sausage, breaded and deep fried), bacon, lemon, lime, olives and string cheese topping a house-infused bacon vodka Bloody Mary made with Zing Zang and a bit of Wisconsin's own Fuel Café stout beer. If you're looking for more variety, consider a Bloody Flight: three 8-ounce samples each made of tequila, bacon infused vodka and jalapeno-infused vodka. bluephies.com
Rusty's Backwater Saloon, Stevens Point
While the above contenders for the title of "Wisconsin's Best Bloody" adopt the belief that bigger is better, Rusty's Backwater Saloon prefers to keep things simple. However, its Bloody Mary is anything but basic and is widely hailed as the best in the state. Rusty's version includes banana pepper juice (instead of pickle juice), more peppers, a pickle and a beer chaser on the side. For extra kick, ask for fresh-squeezed garlic, or for an extra buck you can get a foot-long beef stick. rustys.net

The Green Dragon BrewPub, Fond du Lac
It makes sense that this one would have Bloody Marys on the brain since owner Dave Koepke was previously the owner of O'Davey's Irish Pub, also in Fond du Lac, which once made national headlines for the most insane Bloody Mary creations in American history. The Green Dragon opened last summer and offers a different specialty Bloody Mary creation each Sunday. Incarnations have included: a chicharrón and plantains, a Moroccan kabob, a smoked turkey leg and deep fried jalapeño mozzarella stick, a fried pork tenderloin and tostones and one with honey-battered mako shark and portabella fries — making their cheeseburger slider Bloody seem passé by comparison. (It's still delicious.) This place is still under the radar so get on that Bloody bandwagon before national media gets wind of it and you can't get a seat! greendragonbrewpub.com

Revere's Wells Street Tavern, Delafield
With curlies of string cheese crowning the top of one of their specialty Bloody Marys like an abstract art project, a slice of sausage unassumingly draped on the side of the glass alongside slices of lemon and lime, and a beer chaser to boot, Revere's Bloody Mary deserves its spot in Wisconsin's Bloody Hall of Fame. reverestavern.com

Choo Choo Bar & Grill, Superior
If you're a fan of those super-sized Blondies that Wisconsin does best, then be sure to hit up the Choo Choo Bar in Superior, where the Bloody Marys are served in carafes and garnished with a jumbo shrimp, a giant beef stick, celery with cheese, olives, mushrooms, pearl onions and a pickle spear. choochoobarandgrill.com

4th Base Seafood Restaurant, Milwaukee
This place takes the art of the Bloody Mary very seriously and will customize its spicy house-made mix any way you want. And if what you want is a full salad of fresh veg-
4th Base Seafood Restaurant, Milwaukee

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The Loaded Slate, Milwaukee

Like the full moon and paying rent, the Loaded Slate’s Ultimate Bloody Mary only happens once a month. It is a giant Bloody adorned with a full-sized cheeseburger, a soft pretzel, a giant mozzarella stick, a fried pickle, cheese curds, tater tots and string cheese. You won’t need to order a meal, and will probably still want to split this. But if you should happen to visit on a day that they aren’t serving the Ultimate, the Loaded Bloody Mary is no slouch – loaded up with a cheeseburger slider, doughnut-sized onion rings, bacon, a fried pickle, string cheese and veggies, and served in a normal, human-sized glass. theloadedslate.com

Nicole Rupersburg is a freelance writer covering food, travel, arts, culture and various other what-have-yous. Originally from the Midwest, she flees to the desert to wait out each winter but enjoys spending her summers in the Great Lakes region.

etables, a pile of haystack onions and a jumbo shrimp that’s almost too big to fit in the pint glass, then by Mary you shall have it! the4thbase.com

ExperienceWisconsinMag.com | spring/summer 2015
BOOKWORM GARDENS OFFERS FAMILY FRIENDLY FUN
BY JENNIFER BRADLEY

Combine a botanical garden and a child’s book collection and you get a creatively wonderful destination for families located in Sheboygan, an hour north of Milwaukee. Bookworm Gardens is a collection of seven literary-themed gardens that feature more than 60 children’s books.

In summer, the gardens are in full bloom, offering space for kids to run, play and explore. Each garden features hands-on, experiential learning opportunities.

Within each garden visitors will find a number of smaller spaces featuring popular children’s books. For example, the “Animal Garden,” to the left of the main gate, is a big hit with my twin toddler boys. They love the Dinosaur Bones garden, where they pose for pictures on dinosaur eggs and dig in the sand for bones. Just a short walk on a stone path and they find themselves exploring the sticks, straw and brick houses of The Three Little Pigs and searching through the Playhouse for Monster.

On the way back, everyone stops to give Harry the Dirty Dog a bath! Kids love water, and on the other side of The Secret Garden, a large waterfall overlooks a musical garden, with a variety of instruments set among tall trees.

When we get to the “Farm Garden,” children are greeted by a life-size cow they can actually sit on. The typewriter at the desk in the barn brings us to a favorite book of my boys: Click Clack Moo. Enter Farmer McGregor’s barn, guarded by a scarecrow and imagine The Tale of Peter Rabbit.

After the farm, my boys relax on the wooden bridge at McElligot’s Pool pond, looking for frogs and fish.

In the “Woodlands Garden,” each child takes their turn to climb aboard a covered wagon and serve food in the log cabin, imagining they are living in the time of Little House in the Big Woods. We move past Winnie the Pooh’s house and the boys rake stones at a Japanese teahouse and garden, while older children stop to read the laminated One Leaf Rides the Wind.

IF YOU GO: Bookworm Gardens is open May 1 through Oct. 31. Admission is free of charge. For a list of hours, go to bookwormgardens.org.

Jennifer Bradley is a freelance writer from Chilton, Wis.
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WISCONSIN WAS KEY STOP ON UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

By Lisa M. Schmelz

Exact numbers will never be known, but archival records indicate that between 1842 and 1861 more than 100 escaped slaves appear to have found freedom by way of Wisconsin. According to the Wisconsin Historical Society, even the passing of the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850 — which subjected anyone helping an escaped slave to stiff penalties — didn't stop Wisconsin abolitionists.

As slaves and those who aided them — like Joseph Goodrich — went to great lengths to hide their efforts, exact details of exactly how and where the Underground Railroad operated in Wisconsin are still not entirely clear. But one documented site still with us today, and open for public tours, is Milton House.

“There are a lot of rumored properties around the state, with claims to be tied to the Underground Railroad, and quite a few in Burlington, Wis. But most haven't been verified by the National Network to Freedom,” says Cori Olson, executive director of Milton House. “As far as I know, we're the only remaining structure in Wisconsin verified and open for tours.”

At Milton House, in the rural community of Milton, near Janesville, visitors experience a true underground passage. Built by Underground Railroad conductor and Wisconsin pioneer Joseph Goodrich, who founded the town of Milton, Milton House is today a National Historic Landmark. Goodrich and other pioneer Milton families were members of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, and had ventured west to Wisconsin from Upstate New York in 1838. Ardent abolitionists, they became active locally in the Underground Railroad.

A bustling inn in its day, runaway slaves entered a log cabin about 10 feet behind what was then the Milton House Inn via a trap door. Originally only three-feet high,
Underground Railroad Facts

- The Underground Railroad was never a formal organization. Instead, it was a loose network of farms, people, and slaves. Any regular route would have been easily detected by slave catchers, so slaves reached their destinations in different ways. Some scholars believe there were probably as many routes as escaping slaves. Slaves rarely received any help until they reached a safe northern state.

- Enslaved African-Americans did not wait for others to guide them to freedom. Most slaves planned and carried out their own escapes and usually did so alone.

- Most “workers” on the Underground Railroad were free blacks or escaped slaves—not white abolitionists. While abolitionists wanted an end to the human bondage, many were opposed to breaking the law and slavery as an institution or unwiling to violate federal law by aiding the escape of a slave.

- The exact number of slaves who escaped on the Underground Railroad will never be known. However, as many as 100,000 slaves are believed by historians to have used the Underground Railroad between 1860 and 1865. The majority who made escape attempts, though, were caught and returned to their owners. Punishment for captured slaves was severe, and carried out in front of other slaves.

For all this to go undetected was indeed remarkable. Located on what was then Territorial Road — and today Wisconsin Highway 26 — the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad crosses here meant Milton and Milton House Inn were busy, thriving places. At its peak, 27 stagecoaches and 36 trains stopped daily at this rural hamlet.

Though Goodrich could not make known Milton House’s status as a stop on the Underground Railroad, he did make known his staunch opposition to slavery. In 1852, and under his leadership, the Seventh Day Baptist Church’s general conference adopted this resolution:

“Resolved, that we enter our solemn protest against the system of American slavery, as a sin against God, and a libel upon our national declaration, that all men are created equal, that we regard the Fugitive Slave Law as an atrocious violation of the rights of humanity, and that to aid in its execution would be treason to Jesus Christ.”

The Milton House remained in the Goodrich family until 1948, when members donated it to the Milton Historical Society. Five years of restoration work ensued and in 1953, Milton House was opened as a museum — a secret no more. An addition in 2006 allowed the museum to be open year-round.

For information on hours, admission and more, go to miltonhouse.org.

Like Milton, Racine County also had a strong abolitionist community. The corridor between the cities of Racine and Burlington is mentioned frequently in oral history related to the Underground Railroad. The Racine Heritage Museum explores that history in detail with its “This Train Is Bound for Glory: Racine County’s Underground Railroad” exhibit.

Here, stories of secret hiding places, narrow escapes and a community spurred to action are brought to life with artifacts, images and an interactive Underground Railroad role-playing activity.

The First Presbyterian Church in Racine is also available for tours. The church proudly proclaims to be Racine’s longest-standing congregation. Here, runaway slaves are believed to have hidden in crawl spaces and secret passages — possibly on Sunday mornings while church members were in the sanctuary for worship. While firm evidence to support this stop on the Underground Railroad is lacking, the oral history is strong enough that the church offers free tours to groups.

Tours are not scheduled on a regular basis and must be requested at least two weeks in advance. Equal parts architectural — with access to possible hiding spaces — and art, the tour also includes an exhibit of quilts, highlighting African-Americans’ struggle for freedom. firstpresracine.org

Also in Racine is the Joshua Glover Commemorative Marker. The marker is located at Racine’s Monument Square, at the intersection of Main Street and 6th Street. It tells Wisconsin’s moving and most famous story in the battle against slavery. On March 30, 1854, a large crowd assembled in the very spot to protest the capture of Joshua Glover, a Missouri slave.

Abolitionists across southeastern Wisconsin surrounded the Milwaukee jail housing Glover, broke down its doors and ultimately were able to help him make his way to Canada.

The jail is long gone, but a marker commemorating Glover’s forcible release is located at Cathedral Square Park, at the intersection of East Kilbourn Avenue and North Jackson Street in Milwaukee.

Lisa M. Schrier is a freelance writer from Delavan, Wis.
Take any Saturday any time of year — the roads need be mostly but not entirely clear of ice and snow — and you'll likely see a group of cyclists somewhere along the shores of Lake Monona. Not all, but many of them set out to circle the lake along what is sometimes called the Lake Loop. Others simply say they are “riding around the lake,” and locals will know what they mean.

It's a 12-14 mile route depending on whether you hug the shores or honor the posted route. You can begin anywhere. Locals head out from their driveways while west siders head east toward downtown.

However you get there or wherever you begin, the ride will take you through the funky near-east side of Madison where students mingle with aging hippies and young hipsters. Keep going and you'll come to the Schenk-Atwood neighborhood spotted with local haunts and upstart hotspots. There's the stalwart Harmony Bar, breakfast favorite Mermaid Cafe and relative newcomer One Barrel Brewing.

Stay on the path and you'll meander between community gardens with towering sunflowers come August and the back lawn of Zoma coffee shop.

You'll pass Olbrich Park and the pyramid greenhouse of the Botanical Gardens, the

---

**If you go:**

**PARKING:** Lots at Olin Park and Law Park (just off John Nolen Drive) allow for easy access to the Lake Loop.

**SIGNAGE:** The Lake Loop is a combination of city streets and dedicated bike path that wind around Lake Monona. There is signage to direct you along the streets once you leave the bike path.

No bike? No worries! Madison is one of about two dozen cities in the country that offers the B-cycle bicycle sharing program from Trek. There are 39 stations located throughout the downtown where you can rent a bike and then return it to any one of the stations.
Thai Pavilion and the ruins of the Garver Feed Mill.

Eventually the path empties into Monona Drive, and then you'll head into Monona proper as you cling to the lakeside spotted with mansions along Winnequah Road and Tonawatha Trail. Glimpses of water and either gentle breezes or gusts of wind remind you that you're still on course. If it's summer time, you could roll in for a cone at Monona Bait and Ice Cream, a sure bet for both Babcock Hall treats and night crawlers.

A couple miles later you'll enter Madison along a bit of path that takes you past reedy, wildlife-filled marshes until you shoot out onto Waunona Way, where you'll stay until it dead ends into more bike path yet again. You'll follow it around the south side of the lake as it connects to the Isthmus — it's the only direct connection to downtown without getting on the Beltline — past Olin Park and the fisherman with their 10-gallon buckets and lines cast over the railing aside the iconic Monona Terrace. You'll soon soar past the gear heads at Machinery Row Bicycles and back toward Willy Street and the near east side.

"My favorite ride is Lake Monona," says former Madison Mayor and current Wisconsin Bike Fed Executive Director Dave Cieslewicz. "I've been doing that since I came to Madison for college in 1979. I like the urban aspect. I like the trail on the east side. You go past Olin. You can stop for a burger at the Harmony. There's a lot of great stuff on that ride. It can take you a full day if you do it right."

It's not just Cieslewicz who likes it, it is a familiar and beloved route for recreational cyclists of all ages and abilities. You can't circle the lake without passing a group lott ed out in spandex and jerseys, a family with a baby in a Burley, maybe even a couple on a tandem, and if Mercury is in retrograde, a unicyclist. It is Madison, after all.

And Madison is a bike town. Really it's more like bike country if you count surrounding communities. Events like Ride the Drive designate portions of major thoroughfares and close them to traffic for a few blissful biking hours once or twice a year. International bike giant Trek, which is often credited for cultivating the local cycling culture, is just east of the city in Waterloo. Every fall the most extreme endurance athletes take to the hilly country roads of fair Verona to tackle the 112-mile bike course of Ironman Wisconsin. And let's not forget the World Naked Bike Ride Madison (this year's event is on June 20), which uses a
little public nudity to attract attention to bike transportation (it works).

Indeed, the bike ruts run deep in Madison. While Trek gets a lot of credit for supporting it, Cieslewicz believes the bike behemoth is a product of the local bike culture and not the creator. That credit, Cieslewicz says, belongs to the University of Wisconsin. The state's flagship university has a parking policy that is tight by design, he explains, and for decades, the limited lots and ramps have sent students, faculty and staff in search of alternate transportation.

"Some bus. Some walk. But a lot bike," he says.

Of course, while campus might be the hub of the bike scene, there are spokes reaching throughout the city and into the suburbs. And it's a lively scene full of participants at all times of day, every day of the year. There are the intrepid commuters who rubber-band their pant legs and dart through morning traffic on their ways to work. There are the 12-year-old boys with backpacks loaded down with baseballs, mitts and bats enjoying the freedom of heading to the diamond for a pick-up game. If you think the latter sounds a little Rockwellian, think again. Come springtime, the racks outside Monona's Winnequah School are a jumble of tires, seats, handlebars and forks. Kids around here still ride bikes.

Luke Bernards is one of them. The 13-year-old Monona resident and eighth grader at Glacial Drumlin School tackled the Lake Loop. While accustomed to commuting around town and getting himself to the library, Bernards thought circling the lake was a good but reasonable challenge as he got used to greater distances.

When he set out with his dad, he expected to see the familiar sights, like the Capitol. But he found a few surprises along the way, too. "I saw Indian burial mounds and I didn't realize they were there," he says, noting that he hopped off his bike for a while to explore the shores on the opposite side of the lake.

That's one of the beauties of that particular ride, Cieslewicz says, because it offers up such a mix of what makes this area unique from the idiosyncratic neighborhoods to the landmarks like Monona Terrace. In fact, it's got a little of everything that makes Madison, well, Madison.

Jen Anderson, an area endurance rider and Ironman athlete counts a portion of that Lake Loop among her favorite urban rides. Anderson is a cyclist with a big heart and big ideas. She created The Cookie Project, a program that delivers homemade cookies to residents living along the Ironman course, and she did it to show her appreciation for those who share the road with cyclists. While she prefers the rolling hills to the southwest of the city for her intense training, she also has a soft spot for the stretch along John Nolen Drive.

"I like to ride down there when I can," she says fondly of the stretch of course where the bike portion of the famed race begins and ends. "It's part of the Ironman course. I love the lakefront path."

Jennifer Garrett is a freelance writer from Madison.
25 THINGS

THINGS WE LOVE TO DO IN WISCONSIN

COMPILED BY THE STAFF OF EXPERIENCE WISCONSIN MAGAZINE

2. Sink your teeth into an award-winning pie from Norske Nook Restaurant and Bakery (Rice Lake, Osseo, Hayward and Eau Claire). From pumpkin cream cheese to raisin bread pudding, there's something for everyone. norskenook.com

3. Relive the railroad golden age at Mid-Continent Railway Museum in North Freedom. Depart from a restored depot built in 1894, and ride a 1900-era train through the rolling hills of Sauk County. midcontinent.org

4. Search for bald eagles, snapping turtles, otters and more on a Northwoods River Cruise down the Wisconsin River near Rhinelander. Enjoy comfortable seating on the upper deck, or munch on an afternoon snack below. wisconsinrivercruises.com

5. Learn the history of the Eagle Bluff Lighthouse that dates back to 1868, and tour its grounds and museum along the western shores of the Door County peninsula. eagleblufflighthouse.doorcountyhistoricalsociety.org

6. Get two for one when you stop at Clara Bo Restaurant and Gatsby Wine Bar in Beloit. Enjoy mouth-watering steaks and seafood, then stay to socialize into the evening, all in a 1920's-style atmosphere. clarabo.com/index.html

7. Try a "Fabu-Lux" cupcake at the Cake Guru in Oshkosh or Appleton. With more than 200 options, Tamara's flavors include anything from marshmallow fluff, peanut butter whip or cookie dough fillings, to caramel glaze, puppy chow or sour gummy worm toppings. cakeguru.com

8. Fall off the rails at Road America in Plymouth. The off-road experience features a two-hour ride in a Yamaha Viking utility vehicle over hills and rocky terrain as you take in the 610-acre facility. roadamerica.com

9. Once the world's largest metal sculpture, Dr. Evermor's Forevertron stands in an outdoor art sculpture garden in Sumpter. Local Tom Evermor built this 320-ton attraction from recycled scrap metal. worldofforevertron.com

10. Hear your favorite artists or discover a new band at the Rave/Eagles Club in Milwaukee. The entertainment complex features five stages and two bar/lounges for the perfect stop on your next night out. therave.com/main.asp

11. View the breathtaking waterfalls at Amnicon Falls State Park in South Range. dnr.wi.gov
14. Housed in the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Depot dating back to 1893, Titletown Brewing Company in Green Bay is a popular stop for a cold brew. titletownbrewing.com

15. Embark on a Technical Tour of Lakefront Brewery in Milwaukee, where homebrewers can receive special tips and gain knowledge of the craft. (Only available Sundays, reservations required.) laketrontbrewery.com

16. Saddle up for the 22-mile trek on the Hay Meadow Equestrian Trail in Chippewa Falls. Relax and take in the scenery as your horse navigates across varying terrains. visitchippewafallswi.com

17. Feed the animals at Wildwood Wildlife Park in Minocqua. Choose a classic favorite, such as goats, sheep or pigs, or try a new encounter with giraffes, bears or skunks. wildwoodwildlifepark.com

18. Door County's 11 historic lighthouses are enough to wow just about any history buff or lighthouse fan—and discovering them along the peninsula's 300 miles of Lake Michigan and Green Bay shoreline is an adventure for the whole family. doorcounty.com/experience/lighthouses

19. Nine miles and 920 acres make up the L. H. Barkhausen Waterfowl Preserve in Green Bay. Navigate the forest, meadows and marshes while hiking the trails. cobrown.wi.us

20. Step back in time to the 1870s and visit an authentic logging camp at the Rhinelander Logging Museum. Explore the bunkhouse, cook shanty and blacksmith shop. rhinelander-resorts.com/loggingmus/logging.htm

21. Book a stay at a bed and breakfast, then prepare to take in some of the most beautiful architecture in the state on a historical walking tour of Sturgeon Bay. sturgeonbay.net

22. Baumgartner's Cheese Store and Tavern in Monroe is the oldest cheese store in Wisconsin. Enjoy your favorite, or choose from unique flavors such as apple jack, butterkase and caraway brick. baumgartnercheese.com

23. Family-owned since 1954, Erickson Orchards Country Store and Antiques in Bayfield sells select gourmet foods and garden accessories. Pick apples and strawberries in season, or sample from dozens of fresh-baked goods. bayfieldorchard.com

24. Step back in time and explore the real-life version of Laura Ingalls Wilder's book, "Little House in the Big Woods." Located on Lake Pepin, the Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum recreates the setting of the 1870s adventure. laurakingallspelin.com

25. Walk through the Prairie Moon Sculpture Garden and Museum in Kohr and discover the treasures to which artist Herman Rusch dedicated his life. kohlerfoundation.org
Ruby is the life of the party. Sassy, yet sophisticated. Her guilty pleasures: Glow Bingo, penny slots and '80s rock shows. Learn more about our new player's club, featuring five unique levels and the best gaming and amenities in the Midwest. Visit today and tell us—which player are you.
Kick off summer with a splash at Lake Lawn

Set along nearly two miles of Delavan Lake's shoreline, Lake Lawn has everything for the perfect family getaway. From our Majestic Oaks 18-hole golf course and 165-slip marina to our indoor and outdoor pools, we offer fun options for everyone. And with an ever-changing selection of recreation activities, there are always new ways to enjoy our beautiful lakeside grounds – no matter the time of year.

Following an action-packed day, guests can unwind at Lake Lawn's Calladora Spa featuring facials, massages and salon services. Our Frontier Restaurant boasts sweeping lake views along with the finest fare, and our guest rooms offer the latest refinements, plus a private patio or balcony, for a cozy place to turn in.

If that's not reason enough to visit, our exciting lineup of special events is sure to entice. Check out our calendar and available room packages at LakeLawnResort.com.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
May 23 - 25
A weekend full of family fun and musical delights, plus our first pig roast by the lake on Sunday.

4TH OF JULY WEEKEND
July 3 - 5
Celebrate with a traditional lawn picnic, family activities, and lakeside fireworks July 4th.

SHAKE THE LAKE
August 21 - 23
A weekend filled with an eclectic musical lineup outdoors on the shores of Delavan Lake.

THE CIRCUS RETURNS
August 29 & 30
Glimpse into the days of old with spectacular and daring feats from the Carson & Barnes Circus.

LABOR DAY WEEKEND
September 4 - 7
Outdoor recreation and a pig roast make for a family-friendly weekend full of fun.
IT'S TIME TO BE PAMPERED
Relax and rejuvenate at Renu Day Spa, Page 4
Deerfield's Destination for
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www.nuagemedispa.com
Anna Pamula, owner of Renu Day Spa, doesn’t care about being wealthy; she cares about being happy and spreading joy to others. Pamula offers relaxation services and rejuvenating treatments through her spa, which seems a pretty good avenue for accomplishing her goal.

For nearly 30 years, Renu Day Spa has been operating on the North Shore. In the beginning, Pamula ran her business as Anna’s Electrolysis and after two successful years in Highland Park, she moved it to Deerfield and changed the name to Renu Body Boutique to reflect the myriad new services available. Ten years later, after much growth and a high demand for specialty skin care services, it was time to move a final time to a 5,000-square-foot location at 617 Central Ave. in Deerfield, where the facility sits today—with its new name—Renu Day Spa.

“Our location was built as a spa—we built it with experts from the ground up,” says Pamula.

Pamula and her highly trained staff treat everyone who walks through their doors with respect, kindness and understanding—which is why the spa, after decades of dedicated service, is still flourishing. In addition, many employees are certified to treat immunosuppressed clients with such conditions as cancer, lupus, chronic fatigue, diabetes, psoriasis, and eczema.

“We brought educators to teach our staff, discuss different diseases and learn how to best help our clients with immune issues,” says Pamula. “Because people respond differently to treatments, we design plans based on individual cases.”

Pamula has many cancer survivors under her care, which is why she uses Amrit Organic products—certified organic oils and extracts she says are ideal for gently fostering health, beauty and longevity.

“Our bodies are made to survive and can only function well with good fuel, good thoughts and relaxation,” Pamula says. “Beauty is seen from the inside out; the skin is a picture for what’s in the body.”

So, what does Renu Day Spa offer? In a word: everything. Airbrush spray tans, manicures, pedicures, facials, massages, body wraps and hair removal are all done in this one-stop shop.

For something truly unique, try Renu Day Spa’s: eyebrow and lash tint service, Indian head massage, Chinese acupressure massage, ear candling, Ayurvedic scrub and body wrap, or the Rich Pine Foot Cleansing treatment.

Nail services are the most popular at Renu Day Spa. “We are always booked solid,” says Pamula. “Our nail salon is sterile and impeccably clean.”

Pamula believes that massages are not a luxury—they are a part of human life. “At Renu, we serve with open hearts and love,” says Pamula. “I was born to take care of others.”

For more information, call 847-940-9727 or visit renudayspa.com.

6 TIPS FOR GREAT SKIN

Anna Pamula, owner of Renu Day Spa, suggests the following steps.

- Use organic products on your skin.
- Maintain a healthy and active lifestyle—sweat out toxins and move your body.
- Find ways to relax and live stress-free—don’t be a drama queen.
- Get lots of sleep—at least eight hours.
- Don’t worship the sun; use sunscreen.
- Exfoliate your skin if you’re over age 25.
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An Occasion to Celebrate
Selecting the perfect engagement ring

When it comes to engagement ring designs, the options are endless, so deciding on the perfect one can be intimidating.

The staff at Glenview Jewelers, located in The Glen Town Center, 1970 Tower Drive, Glenview, is fully equipped to help anyone through the process, and they believe that an engagement ring should be as unique as the person wearing it.

Something new

Though a solitaire setting offers a classic and timeless look, the trend right now is the halo engagement ring, according to Lisa Marie Benjamin, Gemological Institute of America gemologist.

Halos are designed to enhance the center diamond and make it appear larger by setting smaller diamonds around it. In terms of the women's wedding bands popular now, eternity bands, in which diamonds encircle the finger, are taking the cake.

Men's wedding bands are designed more for comfort and durability in a matte, less-flashy look, she says.

Customers have also been adding personal surprises to the groom's wedding band in the form of engraved special messages, verses and wedding dates.

Something borrowed

"Many couples come in together to decide on what engagement ring best suits them, but sometimes a hopeful groom comes in alone and brings images that have been given to him," says Carmen Benjamin. "We have Pinterest, Instagram and other social media to thank for that."

If your future partner has ever had anything in mind, Glenview Jewelers can design and replicate it. If the engagement is a secret, a close friend or family member may be of great help in relaying information about the dream ring.

Something blue

In terms of color, depending on the customer, the whiter the diamond the better. But in some instances, different gemstones are used as the center of an engagement ring.

"Cut, color, and clarity are important factors in selecting a diamond," Lisa Marie Benjamin says.

But in some instances, different gemstones are being used as the center of an engagement ring. The most popular is a blue sapphire, because of the level of hardness, which can hold up pretty well, she says.

Tradition of excellence

One thing that sets Glenview Jewelers apart is the time they take to educate their customers.

"Sitting down and discussing price, budgets and quality is very important before viewing our vast inventory," says Carmen Benjamin. "Knowing what you want makes the decision much easier and faster. It is important for our customers to see, in person, what makes a diamond grade higher or lower than another."

For more information, call 847-906-1090 or visit glenviewjewelers.com.
Sweet sentiments: Giving the gift of candy

The candymakers at Cora Lee Candies have been producing world-renowned, handmade English toffee since 1962. It's such a hit that they sell approximately 30,000 pounds at Christmastime, according to Leonard Toll, co-owner of the Glenview shop.

That's a lot of toffee to make by hand, but that's how they operate. "Our toffee, Grumpies (turtles), Non-Panels, Mint Squares and Barque — all of it is handmade," Toll says. Chocolate-dipped pretzels and fruits — including apricots and Italian orange peels — are also offered at the candy store. "Most of the fruit is imported, and it's the best we can get our hands on," Toll says.

Cora Lee Candies has shipped its product all over the United States, Canada and Europe. They do cut back on shipping over the summer months to avoid melting. It's always fun to get something sweet in a pretty package, so the store offers specialty tins around the holidays, and this time of year they build Easter baskets and handcrafted rabbits. Though the look may vary, the candy always has the same sweet taste.

Toll says Cora Lee Candies stands out from the competition because of the technique they use to make the toffee. "We use top quality blended chocolates, we grind our own pecans, and when we stir and handle the toffee, there is a technique that we use that nobody else can seem to match," he says.

Cora Lee Candies is located at 1844 Waukegan Road, Glenview. For more information, call 847-724-2754 or visit coraleecandies.com.
Bridal beauty
Getting the best look for your big day

If hair and makeup aren't No. 1 on your wedding to-do list, they should be. Teddie Kossof Salon Spa, 281 N. Waukegan Road, Northfield, offers an unmatched capacity to handle hair and makeup for large bridal parties, and every other service you may need for wedding day prep, including facials, massage therapy, body treatments, waxing, and nail services. They offer a dental spa, med spa — and yes, a seamstress on site for last-minute disasters.

Building beauty
"The bride's beauty steps should start a year before the wedding, especially when it comes to skincare," says Alan Kossof, co-owner of Teddie Kossof Salon Spa with his father, Teddie.

Carol Marie Everett, esthetician and lead makeup artist, agrees, recommending monthly facials for a year prior to the wedding. "If you have healthy, vibrant skin, makeup lays much better," she says.

Taking your time to plan will allow you to map out other services such as teeth whitening, waxing, and stress-relieving spa treatments, too. "My father has always prided himself on having the ability to slow things down and offer a proper complementary consultation," Kossof says.

When working with a future bride, the staff goes over goals, establishes a color palette, and works with face shapes and makeup regimens. "We want to customize the look and make it unique," he says.

Next, a trial run appointment is the easiest way to put someone's mind at ease. Always come to this appointment clean-faced so that your esthetician can see your skin, bone structure and your eye shape to create the right look.

"The last thing we want to do is cause redness by taking makeup off first," Everett says.

Soft trends
It's up to the bride how she and her bridesmaids should look, but there are some trends that make for a romantic finish.

"With brides we see a lot of smoky eyes with natural tones like bronze, gold and even some silver grays," Everett says.

Today, some brides are going for a clean eye with straight liner and one shadow with a bright pop of color on the lip. Always defer to a natural lip with a dramatic eye, or a softer eye with a bright lip, Everett suggests.

"Lip color can have a little bump of shine, but it should be iridescent instead of frosted," she says. "We are seeing a lot of metallic in eye shadows, mineral makeup and lashes always complete the look."

Day of
To battle the beauty blues on any important day, always go with waterproof everything.

Everett suggests catching any tears in the corner of your eye as they fall with a tissue tucked into your bouquet. "No wiping!" she warns. "And if you aren't used to kissing with lipstick on, you may want to practice," she says.

After eating and drinking, you may need a slight touch-up of face powder and lip color.

"Touch up only on your nose, chin and under the eyes. No powder should be reapplied to your cheeks or you'll negate your blush," she says.

Everett recommends that every bride appoint someone she can trust to be on smudge watch.

"Make it a bridesmaid's job throughout the course of the day to make sure you have lipstick on," Everett says.

For more information, visit teddiekossof.com.
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Another year has gone by and it's time to celebrate — so do it in a momentous way. Celebrate your child's birthday, or your own, by blowing candles out with your friends and family on one of these five thrilling adventures.

The need for speed
NASCAR enthusiasts will love a day at the track for an extraordinary birthday celebration. Chicagoland Speedway offers big savings and hospitality for groups — discounted tickets, blocked seating to keep your group together, a VIP experience for the birthday guest, and gifts for each attendee.

"The party aspect is built in, as we feature live music and entertainment at all of our events, in addition to racing," says Patrick Kenny, communications manager at Chicagoland Speedway. "One of the great things about our sport and facility is that a race weekend offers more than just the on-track competition."

Chicagoland Speedway is all about dynamic and boisterous fun, which is the perfect environment for celebrating a birthday in a memorable way. From headlining concert acts such as Luke Bryan and Brantley Gilbert, to the pulsating Champions Park, Chicagoland Speedway is sure to create an exceptional experience.

"The entertainment is everywhere you look, and we pride ourselves on making a fan's experience last for days rather than hours," says Kenny.

Chicagoland Speedway is located at 500 Speedway Blvd., Joliet. For more information, call 815-722-5500 or visit chicagolandspeedway.com.

Put the fire out
Schaumburg's FireZone, operated by real local firefighters, is the first firehouse for kids, featuring 7,000 square feet of all-inclusive firefighting birthday fun for ages 2 to 8. The FireZone will do it all so you don't have to — they supply printable invitations and thank-you cards, party supplies and favors, a custom fire truck cake, firehouse food options, and dedicated staff to facilitate the party.

"We combine important fire safety education with hands-on fun, creating a one-of-a-kind birthday adventure," says Chris Gantz, managing director at FireZone.

The firefighters are able to keep the attention of young kids, engaging them with structured and age-appropriate activities. FireZone takes aspects from the real firehouse and incorporates them into the parties. All kids at the party can dress up with a fire jacket and a red hat. A birthday boy or girl gets to be the star of the show, operating as a Junior Fire Chief, complete with a special white fire helmet to take home.

"Every firehouse needs a chief," says Gantz.

The FireZone is located
Kids can be as creative as possible at Kohl Children's Museum.
Hands-on activities include face painting. Birthday partygoers enjoy full-day admission to the museum.

at 1100 National Parkway, Schaumburg. For more information, call 877-597-3473 or visit firezonefun.com.

Howl at the ice
For something truly unique, kids can celebrate their birthday with Skates from the Chicago Wolves. What could be more fun than fireworks, laser shows, loud music, and hockey?

"Birthday parties with the Wolves are an affordable way to get all your guests together for a fun, exciting and unforgettable way to celebrate someone special," says Kevin Dooley, senior executive director of ticket sales at Chicago Wolves. "We supply all the elements of the greatest party people usually don't get to have — basically it's everything you love about live sports."

Birthday suites at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont include 10 tickets, Wolves hats, a special autographed gift and two parking spaces. Birthday groups save $5 off each ticket for groups between 10 to 29 people, and get a Wolves hat, party favors, group recognition and discounted food coupons. For more information, call 800-843-9658.

Hands-on exploration for wee ones
Many folks are familiar with, and love, all of the amazing activities that Kohl Children's Museum of Greater Chicago in Glenview provides. Children from birth to age 8 can delve into 17 interactive and proactive exhibits designed to satiate the most inquisitive little surveyor. Combining the museum activities with a birthday party creates a fun space to celebrate with friends and family.

"Birthday parties have become a growth market for the museum as parents realize the value of having their party entertainment built in to the environment," says Sheridan Turner, president and CEO of Kohl Children's Museum.

There are relatively few places in the Chicago area, Turner says, that offer party environments appropriate for really young children.

In addition to a private room that hosts can decorate and personalize to provide a common place for guests to meet, collect birthday gifts and offer food and birthday cake, partygoers at the museum also enjoy full-day admission.

The museum offers both indoor and outdoor areas to explore, which creates a ton of fun — rain or shine.

"They can come early or stay later after the party activities if they choose," says Turner.

The Kohl Children's Museum is located at 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview. For more information, call 847-832-6600 or visit kohlchildrensmuseum.org.

For the big kids
For their next party, competitive thrill-seekers ages 12 and up should check out WhirlyBall — a bumper car game that combines the skills of lacrosse and basketball. Children's birthday party packages include pizza and pop, and are held before 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Adult family and friends will enjoy a wide selection of craft beers. The restaurant menu also has hearty comfort-food favorites to satisfy you and help you carb-up for the next round of WhirlyBall.

Kids ages 7-11 will have fun playing laser tag, air hockey and pool — there's something for everyone.

"Each year the number of WhirlyBall children's birthday parties increases, and not because of any secret marketing strategy," says John Krol, marketing director at WhirlyBall. "Kids are, by far, our best salespeople."

WhirlyBall has three locations: 1825 W. Webster Ave., Chicago, 773-486-7777; 800 E. Roosevelt Road, Lombard, 630-932-4800; and 285 Center Drive, Vernon Hills, 847-918-0800. For more information, visit whirlyball.com.

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Fortunately, taking care of our skin isn't all that difficult, especially with help from the staff of Nu Age Med Spa, 1105 N. Milwaukee Ave., Riverwoods.

Nu Age, which opened in 2009, offers luxury skin care and anti-aging answers by uniting medical esthetic treatments and advanced spa therapies in a state-of-the-art facility.

We can't stop time or the effects of the sun on our skin, but there are regimens that can help us look and feel our best.

"All of our services are performed by our skilled team of licensed estheticians under the direction and supervision of Dr. Tom Klein, our on-site physician and medical director," says Jennifer Klein, Nu Age Med Spa owner and manager.

Nu Age utilizes the most forward-thinking technologies and procedures in a soothing and friendly environment that gives clients beautiful results, she says.

"We strive to give our clients impeccable service and the most unique, rejuvenating and unforgettable experience with each visit," says Jennifer Klein. "Our ultimate goal is to develop a relationship with each client that is based on mutual respect and trust."

Always at the forefront of skin care, Nu Age is committed to providing personalized plans to meet all of their clients' needs.

First-time visitors can enjoy a complimentary consultation and skin analysis.

Services include: facials; microdermabrasion; hydrating facial treatments; chemical peels; Botox; facial fillers; laser hair removal; skin tightening; microneedling; acne, rosacea and vein treatments; body contouring; and more.

Clients can also stock up on a full selection of skin care products that allow them to prepare, repair and maintain healthy skin at home.

For more information, call 847-325-5111 or visit nuagemedispa.com.
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Serving up 21 years of craft beer and fun

Mickey Finn's Brewery is no stranger to the craft beer business.

The restaurant/brewery sits on 15,000 square feet across the street from its original location in Libertyville. Although celebrating just one year in the new space, Mickey Finn's has 21 years under its belt — and was well ahead of the craft beer trend when it started brewing and serving award-winning beers.

Pat Elmquest and partner Bill Sugars expanded the 2,000 square foot tavern in 1992 into a 10,000 square foot restaurant, brewery, beer garden and private party room. In 2004, Brian Grano became proprietor and expanded again in the current space at 345 N. Milwaukee Ave.

"The brewery and kitchen more than doubled in size, as did our bar," says Grano.

This year they will brew more than 30 beers, rotating some of them seasonally.

"Whether it's a quiet lunch, dinner in the family friendly atmosphere, or a late night club feel, there is a time for everyone at Mickey Finn's," says Grano.

On Friday and Saturday nights, see free live music or check out your favorite team on the 70-inch flat-screen TVs. The private party room holds 20 to 250 people if you're in the mood to share a more intimate time, so book your next business meeting or birthday party now.

For more information, call 847-362-6688 or visit mickeyfinnsbrewery.com.

Catering and banquet solutions for any event

When planning a wedding, first communion, or any other large event, finding the right location can be daunting. Then there's the question of who prepares, cooks and serves all those appetizers and main dishes to your guests.

Maravela's Banquet Hall and Catering Services, 4 Washington St., Ingleside, has the solution.

Maravela's staff works with you to plan a top-notch affair, from its elegant banquet hall with separate rooms accommodating 75 to 400 people to its professional catering staff that delivers the appetizers and main dishes right to your guests.

Family owned and operated since 1982, the professionals at Maravela's have the party planning experience to customize everything for you — including the menu.

Maravela's has won a number of awards for its banquet and catering services, including Best Caterer in Suburban Life's Readers' Choice Awards, WeddingWire.com Couples' Choice Award, and The Knot Best of Weddings pick.

Maravela's opens to the public twice a year for an Easter Brunch and a New Year's Eve celebration. Reservations are required for both events.

More information, call 847-587-6100 or visit maravelas.com.

The banquet facilities at Maravela's Banquet Hall and Catering Services in Ingleside can accommodate up to 400 people.
Do homework before hiring entertainment for your big event

When the time comes to plan that special event, the entertainment — be it a disc jockey or a band — can make or break the party.

Music sets the mood for any celebration, from weddings and mitzvahs to birthdays and anniversaries. Getting to know the DJ or band before the event is crucial to making sure they’ll set the right mood.

Of course budget is always a factor. Some brides and party planners who might have more to spend opt to hire both a DJ and a band and provide their guests with the best of both worlds.

Weddings, for the most part, top the list of reasons people seek out bands and DJs.

No matter what you decide, what really matters is making your wedding or special event something to remember.

When hiring a DJ, experts recommend doing some investigation, and not deciding on someone based solely on them being a friend’s cousin.

“At the end of the day, every wedding you’ve gone to you either had a good time or you didn’t ... and a large part of that responsibility falls on the DJ,” says Keith KoKoruz, president of the Chicago chapter of the American Disc Jockey Association and owner of Schaumburg-based Keith Christopher Entertainment Group, which also includes Fred Fox Studios, Aberdeen’s Wedding Florists, Bella Sebastian Beauty and the Windy City Wedding Show.

As for what you should be looking for when you begin the search for a DJ or band for your wedding or event, KoKoruz pointed to “proof of reliability.” He says the DJ you hire should answer the phone on a regular basis and preferably be a member of the American Disc Jockey Association.

“Full-time disc jockeys are always going to give better service than a part-time company,” says KoKoruz, a full-time DJ since 1989.

He says it’s also important to meet the DJ and get to know a bit about their personality to make sure they are going to click with your guests.

Jesse Lynn, owner of Grayslake-based Kidron Music, agrees. A great DJ is not someone who just plays music for the wedding reception, Lynn says, a full-time DJ for the past 10 years.

“A professional DJ is acting as the host of your reception and will structure your reception with you,” he says. “The bride and groom are depending on you to deliver their reception to their guests.”

Lynn recommends couples hire a band they both know and love and are confident that guests will enjoy, as well.

He says couples also should try to hire a DJ in addition to the band to serve as the emcee for the reception.

For more information, visit keithchristopher.com and kidronmusicweddings.com.
Celebrate the luck of the Irish with beer, food and fun at The Curragh

Perfect pints, delectable eats and good old Irish fun have brought folks to The Curragh since 1999 — after all, the name is a nod to the headquarters of flat (horse) racing in Ireland.

For several successful years, The Curragh operated in Schaumburg at its first location before closing its doors in 2006. Three years later, the restaurant interior was disassembled piece-by-piece and taken to its new home in Chicago's Edison Park neighborhood.

Today, The Curragh has three additional locations: Holland, Michigan; Skokie; and, most recently, "The Glen" in Glenview.

The Curragh in Glenview has been doing very well, according to manager Orlaith Branagan, who says the community has offered its unwavering support since the restaurant's March 2014 opening. "People are really liking it," says Branagan. "We offer a variety from the restaurants and bars that are here."

"The staff, the design, the imported Irish bric-a-brac, the drinks, the food, the music, and the name create a sense of Irish history that people enjoy visiting time and again," says Sean Ginnelly, general manager of the Edison Park location.

Creating a sense of culture and belonging, as well as a love of beer — a good dark malty-tasting stout especially — are the objectives of The Curragh.

"We guarantee that your pint will be the best around," says Ginnelly. "The Curragh has been awarded the Guinness Gold Standard Award for perfect pints expertly poured by trained bartenders."

All the traditional Irish favorites — Irish stew, boxty (a traditional Irish potato pancake), fish and chips, the all-day Irish breakfast, and shepherd's pie — are served up, along with contemporary American fare such as ribs, burgers, sandwiches and steaks.

And, of course, The Curragh offers a vast selection of Irish, craft and world beers as well as Irish whiskies, scotches and single malts. Stop in for their signature house-favorite, Irish Mule cocktail — made with Jameson Blackbarrel Irish whiskey, fresh ginger and ginger beer, garnished with a lime.

In addition to great food and drinks and an old-style intimate pub atmosphere, The Curragh features traditional music throughout the day. The weekends, however, are when the pub comes alive — The Curragh regularly features live bands playing a wide variety of Irish music and contemporary styles.

The Curragh is a popular venue for watching Gaelic football and hurling games, broadcast live from Ireland on the weekends. Every year, as can be expected, The Curragh hosts the St. Patrick's Fleadh (festival) over the weekend leading up to and including St. Patrick's Day. Featured are live Irish bands, bagpipers, Irish dancers, and traditional Irish dishes such as corned beef and cabbage.

What sets The Curragh apart from the crowd? In a word: hospitality. After all, Ireland is known as the land of a hundred thousand welcomes and The Curragh is no different.

"How better to deliver true Irish hospitality than with a brogue!" says Ginnelly. "Many of the staff are from Ireland and know firsthand how to make our guests feel welcome. As the old Irish proverb states: 'No strangers here, only friends you've never met.'"

Recently, The Curragh in Edison Park opened a party room complete with a full bar, a state-of-the-art sound system, and wireless microphone capability. Groups of up to 150 can bring the luck of the Irish into their birthday party celebrations, get-togethers, or corporate events. In the summer, The Curragh has an outdoor patio dining area, with televisions and heaters, and a full breakfast menu served in an adjoining breakfast cafe on weekends from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, visit curraghirishpub.com.
Easter and Mother’s Day are right around the corner. Gather family and friends for a brunch buffet to celebrate. Remember to make reservations early. Here is a sampling of area establishments offering brunch buffets.

**Abbington**
35002 Route 53, Glen Ellyn
630-942-8600
Abbingtonbanquets.com
Adults: $40
Children (5-12): $18
Reservations are required; seating times are 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The Easter brunch buffet includes eggs Benedict, omelets, shrimp, salmon, a carving station with ham, roast beef and lamb, sweet and fruit table, and complimentary champagne.

**Allgauer’s Restaurant**
Hilton Northbrook
2855 N. Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook
847-664-7999
northbrookallgauers.com
Adults: $42
Children (4-10): $18
Reservations are recommended; seating times are 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. or 4 p.m.

The all-you-can-eat Easter buffet includes many breakfast items, a variety of seafood including snow crab legs, prime rib, salad bar, chocolate fountain, and a wide selection of desserts. For more information, including Mother’s Day brunch, visit the website.

**Bar Louie**
Skokie Holiday Inn
5300 W. Touhy Ave., Skokie
847-763-3068
barlouieskokie.com
Adults: $25.95

**Chicago Botanic Garden**
1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe
847-835-5440
chicagobotanic.org

Adults: $30 for members/$38 non-members
Children (3-12): $24/$29
Price includes parking, taxes and gratuity.

Easter brunch seating times are 9, 10, 11 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. in Nichols Hall, Regenstein Center.

Enjoy brunch and an Easter egg hunt at the Garden. Mother’s Day brunch seating times are 9, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the McGinley Pavilion.

Adults: $52.95 for members/$59.95 for non-members
Children (3-12): 24.95/$27.95
Price includes parking, taxes and gratuity.

The all-you-can-eat buffet includes a carving station featuring ham, beef, lamb, roasted turkey, eggs Benedict, mini waffles, salad, fruit bar and a variety of desserts.

**Lovell’s of Lake Forest**
915 S. Waukegan Road, Lake Forest
847-234-8013
lovellsloflaterest.com
Adults: $60
Children (4-12): $26
Reservations are required; seating times are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The brunch buffet includes a carving station with lamb, roast beef, ham and turkey, a breakfast station featuring eggs Benedict, omelets, pancakes, waffles, roasted potatoes, bagels and pastries, seafood, international cheeses and fruit station. For Mother’s Day brunch information, call or visit the website.

**Old Warsaw Buffet**
4750 N. Harlem Ave., Harwood Heights
708-867-4500
old-warsaw-buffet.com
Adults: $34.50
Children: $12.50
Reservations are recommended; seating times are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Traditional Polish buffet includes an assortment of fish, including smoked salmon, hard boiled eggs, blintzes, pierogies, dumplings, barbecued ribs, pork chops, sausage, sauerkraut, leg of lamb, hand-carved beef and ham, and an assortment of traditional home-made pastries.

**Maravela’s**
4 Washington St., Ingleside
847-587-6100
maravelas.com

Ages 13 and older: $24.95
Children (7-12): $12.95; (3-6): $6.95, (1-2): $1.95
Reservations are needed; seating times vary depending on group size.

The all-you-can-eat buffet includes a carving station featuring ham, beef, lamb, roasted turkey, eggs Benedict, mini waffles, salad, fruit bar and a variety of desserts.

Maravela’s is closed Mother’s Day.

**Time for brunch**

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Pavilion Restaurant & Lounge
$77 Waukegan Road,
Northbrook
847-715-9440
pavilionchicago.com
Adults: $36.95
Children: $15.95
Reservations are required; seating times are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Dine on an assortment of domestic and imported cheeses, homemade blintzes, waffles and pancakes, eggs Benedict, omelets prepared to order, chef hand-carved prime rib station, children's choices, a sundae bar, and a selection of desserts.

Port Edward Restaurant
20 W. Algonquin Road,
Algonquin
847-658-5441

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(7 oz or larger)

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<tr>
<th>Manufacturer Coupon</th>
<th>Expires 04/30/15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0047400-108967</td>
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#### $3.00 OFF

**ONE Venus® Razor**
(excludes disposable razors)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manufacturer Coupon</th>
<th>Expires 04/30/15</th>
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<tr>
<td>0047400-108971</td>
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SAVE UP TO $8

$5.00 OFF
THREE Pantene® Products (must include Shampoo AND Conditioner OR Styler) (excludes 6.7 oz and trial/travel size)

$1.00 OFF
ONE Pantene® Expert Collection Product (excludes trial/travel size)

$2.00 OFF
ONE Pantene® Styler OR Treatment Product (excludes trial/travel size)

SHAMPOO + new CONDITIONER
= 2X STRONGER HAIR*

*Strength against damage; Pantene shampoo and conditioner system vs. the shampoo alone ©2015 P&G
INTRODUCING CHRISTINA HENDRICKS' NEW ROLE: GOLDEN BLONDE

THE RESULTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES
VIDAL SASSOON SALONIST RATING

OUR MOST ADVANCED HAIR COLOUR SYSTEM OUTSIDE THE SALON

100% GREY COVERAGE

CONSUMER: LIMIT ONE COUPON PER PURCHASE OF PRODUCTS AND QUANTITIES STATED. LIMIT OF 4 LIKE COUPONS PER HOUSEHOLD PER DAY. ANY OTHER USE CONSTITUTES FRAUD. COUPONS NOT AUTHORIZED IF PURCHASING PRODUCTS FOR RESELL. VOID IF TRANSFERRED, SOLD, AUCTIONED, REPRODUCED OR ALTERED FROM ORIGINAL. YOU MAY PAY SALES TAX. DO NOT SEND TO PROCTER & GAMBLE.
SAVE UP TO $9

FIGHTS THE #1 CAUSE OF VISIBLE SKIN AGING WITH UVA/UVB PROTECTION

NOW WITH 40% MORE VITAMINS THAT FIGHT 7 SIGNS OF AGING

MOISTURE THAT OUTLASTS YOUR DAY

$3.00 OFF
ONE Olay® Pro-X OR Olay Regenerist Facial Moisturizer OR Olay Facial Hair Removal (excludes trial/travel size)

CEASERS: LIMIT ONE COUPON PER PURCHASE OF PRODUCT AND COUPON MUST BE FROM THE SAME ISSUE OF P&G. COUPON CANNOT BE REPRODUCED OR ALLORED. COUPON NOT VALID ON PRO-X, REGENERIST, TOTAL EFFECTS, OR AGE DEFYING. COUPON EXCLUDES TRIAL/ TRAVEL SIZE. COUPON CANNOT BE APPLIED TO TRANSACTIONS CREDITED TO COMPANIES OTHER THAN Olay.

MANUFACTURER COUPON | EXPIRES 04/30/15
0075609-108757

$2.00 OFF
ONE Olay® Total Effects OR Age Defying Facial Moisturizer (excludes trial/travel size)

CEASERS: LIMIT ONE COUPON PER PURCHASE OF PRODUCT AND COUPON MUST BE FROM THE SAME ISSUE OF P&G. COUPON CANNOT BE REPRODUCED OR ALLORED. COUPON NOT VALID ON PRO-X, REGENERIST, TOTAL EFFECTS, OR AGE DEFYING. COUPON EXCLUDES TRIAL/ TRAVEL SIZE. COUPON CANNOT BE APPLIED TO TRANSACTIONS CREDITED TO COMPANIES OTHER THAN Olay.

MANUFACTURER COUPON | EXPIRES 04/30/15
0075609-108758

$3.00 OFF
TWO Olay® Facial Moisturizers OR Olay Facial Cleansers (excludes Olay Pro-X, Regenerist, Total Effects or Age Defying and trial/travel size)

CEASERS: LIMIT ONE COUPON PER PURCHASE OF PRODUCT AND COUPON MUST BE FROM THE SAME ISSUE OF P&G. COUPON CANNOT BE REPRODUCED OR ALLORED. COUPON NOT VALID ON PRO-X, REGENERIST, TOTAL EFFECTS, OR AGE DEFYING. COUPON EXCLUDES TRIAL/ TRAVEL SIZE. COUPON CANNOT BE APPLIED TO TRANSACTIONS CREDITED TO COMPANIES OTHER THAN Olay.

MANUFACTURER COUPON | EXPIRES 04/30/15
0075609-108759

$1.00 OFF
ONE Olay® Body Wash, Bar Soap (4 ct or larger) OR Hand & Body Lotion (excludes trial/travel size)

CEASERS: LIMIT ONE COUPON PER PURCHASE OF PRODUCT AND COUPON MUST BE FROM THE SAME ISSUE OF P&G. COUPON CANNOT BE REPRODUCED OR ALLORED. COUPON NOT VALID ON PRO-X, REGENERIST, TOTAL EFFECTS, OR AGE DEFYING. COUPON EXCLUDES TRIAL/ TRAVEL SIZE. COUPON CANNOT BE APPLIED TO TRANSACTIONS CREDITED TO COMPANIES OTHER THAN Olay.

MANUFACTURER COUPON | EXPIRES 04/30/15
0037000-108756
Sandwich
Original Chicken
con la compra devin
Original Chicken Sandwich
ORIGINAL CHICKEN SANDWICH
FREE 2 drinks
2 Small Fountain Drinks

Dinners
2 WHOPPER Jr.
Sandwiches
& 2 Classic
French Fries

MORE DELICIOUS DEALS
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$8.99 WHOPPER Jr. MEAL FOR TWO COMBO PARA DOS
危571
Please mention coupon before ordering. Menú de cupón puede ser reemplazado.
Not valid on specialty varieties—No se aplica para versiones especiales.
Not valid on 2 WHOPPER Jr. Sandwiches, & 2 Small Classic French Fries.

$3.99 2 WHOPPER Jr. SANDWICHES & 2 Small CLASSIC FRENCH FRIES
危570
Please mention coupon before ordering. Menú de cupón puede ser reemplazado.
Not valid on specialty varieties—No se aplica para versiones especiales.
Not valid on 2 WHOPPER Jr. Sandwiches, & 2 Small Classic French Fries.

$9.99 2 WHOPPER Jr. SANDWICHES & 2 SMALL CLASSIC FRENCH FRIES
危570
Please mention coupon before ordering. Menú de cupón puede ser reemplazado.
Not valid on specialty varieties—No se aplica para versiones especiales.
Not valid on 2 WHOPPER Jr. Sandwiches, & 2 Small Classic French Fries.

$3.99 10PC. CHICKEN NUGGETS & LARGE CLASSIC FRENCH FRIES
危571
Please mention coupon before ordering. Menú de cupón puede ser reemplazado.
Not valid on specialty varieties—No se aplica para versiones especiales.
Not valid on 10PC. Chicken Nuggets & Large Classic French Fries.

$9.99 2 WHOPPER Jr. MEAL FOR TWO COMBO PARA DOS
危571
Please mention coupon before ordering. Menú de cupón puede ser reemplazado.
Not valid on specialty varieties—No se aplica para versiones especiales.
Not valid on 2 WHOPPER Jr. Sandwiches, & 2 Small Classic French Fries.

$2.99 2 CROISSANWICH° SANDWICHES, 1 SMALL HASH BROWNS & 1 SMALL COFFEE
危571

FREE | GRATIS
with the purchase of a WHOPPER®
con la compra de un WHOPPER®

FREE | GRATIS
with the purchase of an Original Chicken Sandwich
con la compra de un Original Chicken Sandwich

FREE | GRATIS
with the purchase of a WHOPPER®
con la compra de un WHOPPER®

FREE | GRATIS
with the purchase of a WHOPPER®
con la compra de un WHOPPER®

GET MORE COUPONS!
GO TO SmartSource.com and Save!

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Savings of over $28 in this issue

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Two Sweet Treats for One Good Cause

Fleischmann’s® Yeast and Karo® Syrup are proud supporters of Bake Sale for No Kid Hungry®.
For recipes and bake sale information, visit Breadworld.com or KAROSyrup.com.
Add Daisy
to the healthy foods
you already enjoy.

Daisy
LOW FAT
COTTAGE
CHEESE

- No additives or preservatives.
- 13 grams of protein per ½ cup.
- Good source of calcium.

Save 50¢
on any Daisy Brand Cottage Cheese.

Manufacturer Coupon. Expires 6/30/15.
Cooks®

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON | EXPIRES 6/30/15

Cook’s®
SAVE 75¢
on any ONE Cook's Spiral or Portion Ham.

You can’t have too much Cook’s in the kitchen.
Cooked Perfect meatballs are crafted for your sense of taste, smell and victory.
- Select choices of beef, pork, and poultry
- Flame broiled to perfection
- Ready in minutes

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MANUFACTURER'S COUPON
EXPIRES 5/31/2015

$1.50 OFF any TWO (2) bags of Cooked Perfect Meatballs

Pick up a bag for the tournament!

Find us in your grocer's freezer

TO THE RETAILER: We will pay you the face value of the coupon plus 8 cents for each coupon submitted with this offer. TERMS: Good in USA. LIMIT ONE COUPON PER PURCHASE. Coupon value is a redemption before store redemption, prohibited, licensed, taxed or restricted, not permitted by law. For further information, please contact the manufacturer. Customer pays sales tax. Void where prohibited by law, taxed or restricted. Cannot be combined with any other offer, except as noted. Offer expires 5/31/15. Customer pays sales tax. Void where prohibited by law, taxed or restricted. Cannot be combined with any other offer, except as noted. Offer expires 5/31/15.

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON
EXPIRES 5/31/2015

SAVE UP TO $10.00 on ANY CeraVe® product*

Skin Loves CeraVe™

CeraVe DEVELOPED WITH CERAMIDOTM.
Moisturizing Cream
Skin loves ceramides

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON
EXPIRES 5/31/2015

SAVE $3 on your next purchase of ANY CeraVe® product*

CeraVe

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON
EXPIRES 5/31/2015

SAVE $7 on your next purchase of ANY 2 CeraVe® products*

CeraVe

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON
EXPIRES 5/31/2015

CeraVe

*Includes 6 oz. sizes.

CeraVe moisturizing cream contains hyaluronic acid and ceramides to help improve skin barrier function, while hyaluronic acid helps retain moisture and ceramides help maintain a healthy skin barrier. This regimen helps improve dry, sensitive skin and helps skin retain moisture. For best results, use morning and night. Ceramide deficiency is a common concern among people with dry, sensitive skin. CeraVe is a registered trademark of Johnson & Johnson Consumer, Inc., in multiple countries. For a complete list of ingredients, please see the back of each product. CeraVe moisturizing cream is not recommended for use by individuals who are pregnant or breastfeeding. Always talk to your healthcare provider before making a change to your skin care regimen. For more information, please visit CeraVe.com.
Say Buongiorno to the NEW Lavazza Coffee Blends

From our family to yours. Italian passion in every cup.

Look for our additional drip and espresso blends.

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MANUFACTURER'S COUPON EXP 4/5/2015

$3 OFF Any Lavazza Product

RETAILER: We will reimburse you the face value of this coupon plus tax handling provided you and the consumer have complied with the terms of this offer. Instore,drive through, or phone purchase of sufficient stock to cover presented coupons must be shown on request. Any other application may constitute fraud. Coupon void where prohibited, taxed or restricted. Consumer must pay any sales tax. Cash value 1¢. Reproduction of this coupon is expressly prohibited. Mail to: Lavazza Premium, Inmar Dept. #41953, One Fawcett Drive, Del Rio, TX 78840.

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON EXP 6/30/2015

$2 OFF Any Lavazza Product

RETAILER: We will reimburse you the face value of this coupon plus tax handling provided you and the consumer have complied with the terms of this offer. Instore, drive through, or phone purchase of sufficient stock to cover presented coupons must be shown on request. Any other application may constitute fraud. Coupon void where prohibited, taxed or restricted. Consumer must pay any sales tax. Cash value 1¢. Reproduction of this coupon is expressly prohibited. Mail to: Lavazza Premium, Inmar Dept. #41953, One Fawcett Drive, Del Rio, TX 78840.

SAVE 71%

The Fabulous Foursome

4 (5 oz.) Top Sirloins
4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers
4 Boneless Chicken Breasts (1 lb. pkg.)
4 (3 oz.) Gourmet Jumbo Franks
4 (5 oz.) Stuffed Baked Potatoes

7789KN1 Reg. $136.00
Now Only $39.99 Limit 2

Plus, get 6 more Burgers FREE

Order Now! Call 1-800-248-8786 or www.OmahaSteaks.com/stores to order or to find a store near you.

We ship nationwide. Shipping charges will be added. Offer good through 5/14/15.

In-stock items only—sorry, no rain checks. Limit 2 packages at this price. Cannot be combined with other offers. Limit 6 free burgers per customer with purchase of this offer. Free burgers must ship with order. While Supplies last. Reward cards cannot be used with this offer. Expires 5/14/15.

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It's that simple when you need Dry Eye symptom relief.

- REFRESH OPTIVE® Advanced works on all three layers of your tear film
- Helps protect your natural tears from evaporating
- Clinically proven to relieve burning, irritated eyes due to Dry Eye
- No shaking required

*Encuity’s treatment answers, based on frequency of dry eye product recommendations, Jan 2013–Dec 2013. © 2015 Morgan, Inc. Rights owned by Morgan, Inc. M 750015

Try stretchy scrubbing power for your spring-cleaning needs

VIVA® Vantage® has stretchy strength that works great with these products too!
Get an amazing clean & long-lasting freshness—in one wash.

Gain smells like joy feels

24 HOUR FRESHNESS

NEW TROPICAL SCENT

ODOR PROTECTION

$1.00 OFF

TWO Gain® Fabric Enhancers (excludes Gain® Freshen!), Gain® Flings® and trial/travel size) de descuento en dois detergentes O suavizadores de telas Gain® (excepto Gain® Freshen!, Gain® Flings® y tamaños de prueba/viaje)

$2.50 OFF

TWO Tide® PODS®, Gain® Flings®, Downy® Unstopables®, Downy Fresh Protect®, Bounce® Bbursts® y Gain® Flings® (excludes Tit. P0D5 ct, Gain® Flings® 5 ct, and trial/travel size) de descuento en dos Tide® PODS®, Gain® Flings®, Downy® Unstopables®, Downy Fresh Protect®, Bounce® Bbursts® y Gain® Flings® (excepto Tide® POD5 s.u, Gain® Flings® 5 s.u y tamaños de prueba/viaje)

2.50 OFF

ONE Tide® PODS®, Gain® Flings®, Downy® Unstopables® (excludes Gain® Freshen!), Downy® Fresh Protect!, Bounce® Bbursts® y Gain® Flings® (excludes Tide® POD5 ct, Gain® Flings® 5 ct, and trial/travel size) de descuento en un Tide® PODS®, Gain® Flings®, Downy® Unstopables®, Downy® Fresh Protect!, Bounce® Bbursts® y Gain® Flings® (except Tide® POD5 s.u, Gain® Flings® 5 s.u y tamaños de prueba/viaje)

50¢ OFF

ONE Gain® Detergent OR Gain® Fabric Enhancer (excludes Gain® Freshen!, Gain® Flings® and trial/travel size) de descuento en un detergente O suavizadores de telas Gain® (excepto Gain® Freshen!, Gain® Flings® y tamaños de prueba/viaje)
Help end child hunger.

Start with a code.  

1 CODE = 1 MEAL

Look for the red pushpin and code on these brands and more.

Childhungerendhere.com

*For every code entered at childhungerendhere.com by 1/7/16, ConAgra Foods will donate $1, the cost for Feeding America to provide one meal through its network of local food banks. Maximum 3 million meals. Guaranteed minimum donation 1.5 million meals ($150,000). Limit 5 code entries per person/computer each day. Valid in U.S. only. ©ConAgra Foods, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
More to love.

SAVE 75¢
on any ONE (1) Super Snack Pack* Pudding 6-pack

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SAVE 30¢
on any ONE (1) PAM® Cooking Spray

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vs. leading cooking sprays (except olive oil), bargain brand canola oil cooking spray (shown), after spraying on glass bakeware, baking at 400°F for 30 min, cooling, and then washing in standard home dishwasher with detergent and repeating 4 times.
SAVE 25¢

on any ONE (1)
Reddi-wip® Whipped Topping (13 oz. or 6.5 oz.)

In the Dairy Aisle

SHARE THE JOY OF Real Cream WITH ONLY 15 CALORIES PER SERVING*

Not a low calorie food. ©ConAgra Foods, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

In the Dairy Aisle

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0027000-087811

SAVE 75¢
on any ONE (1) Marie Callender’s® Frozen Dessert Pie (26 oz. or larger)

Find All 20 Flavors in the Frozen Dessert Aisle

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0612781-088373
$5 OFF your purchase of $30 or more*

* Minimum $30 purchase required before taxes, to receive $5 savings. Offer valid through 04/05/2015. Void on regular priced, in stock items, subject to availability, delivery rules, and times. Limit one coupon per purchase. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. Void at Fannie May Outlets. Offer cannot be combined with other offers, discounts, or promotions, may not be used to purchase gift cards and is subject to restrictions and limitations. Prices and charges are subject to change without notice. Void where prohibited. © 2015 Fannie May Confections, Inc.

Fill their basket... with Fannie May Favorites!

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We have invested millions of dollars in our own state-of-the-art quality test labs and millions more in our factories, so our tools will go toe-to-toe with the top professional brands. And we can sell them for a fraction of the price because we cut out the middle man and pass the savings on to you. It’s just that simple! Come visit one of our 550 Stores Nationwide.

**SUPER COUPON**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Tool</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Original Price</th>
<th>Discounted Price</th>
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<td>CENTRAL PNEUMATIC 3 GALLON, 100 PSI OILLESS PANCAKE AIR COMPRESSOR</td>
<td>$399.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 HP ELECTRIC CHAIN SAW</td>
<td>$449.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>1000 LB. CAPACITY MOTORCYCLE LIFT</td>
<td>$999.99</td>
<td>$899.99</td>
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**FREE WITH ANY PURCHASE**

- 3-1/2" SUPER BRIGHT NINE LED ALUMINUM FLASHLIGHT
- 4 PIECE 1" X 15 FT. RATCHETING TIE DOWNS
- 72" x 80" MOVER’S BLANKET
- 1000 LB. CAPACITY MOTORCYCLE LIFT

**WOW SUPER COUPON!**

- CENTRAL PNEUMATIC 3 GALLON, 100 PSI OILLESS PANCAKE AIR COMPRESSOR
- 1 HP ELECTRIC CHAIN SAW
- 1000 LB. CAPACITY MOTORCYCLE LIFT

**PITTSBURGH RAPID PUMP® 3 TON LOW PROFILE HEAVY DUTY STEEL FLOOR JACK**

- $79.99
- Weight: 46 lbs.
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**FREE Shipping & Handling**

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FINALLY A LAYER OF DRIFTWOOD

TURQUOISE OASIS

HOME IS IN THE AIR™

NEW AIR WICK® LIFE SCENTS™

BRING HOME THE FIRST CONSTANTLY CHANGING FRAGRANCE.

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON EXPIRES 04/19/15

$150.00 OFF

ANY 2 (TWO) AIR WICK® Freshmatic® Ultra Automatic Spray Starter Kit

0062338-045233

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON EXPIRES 04/19/15

$100.00 OFF

ANY 1 (ONE) AIR WICK® Scented Oil Twin Refill or 2 (TWO) Single Refills

0062338-045232

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON EXPIRES 04/19/15

$200.00 OFF

ANY 1 (ONE) AIR WICK® Freshmatic® Ultra Automatic Spray Starter Kit

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Buy ANY 1 (ONE) AIR WICK® Scented Oil Twin Refill, Get a FREE* AIR WICK® Scented Oil Warmer Gadget

Cashier please fill in $ RETAIL PRICE * (Tax to $1.99)

0062338-045230
Yes! Reserve the Granddaughter Diamond Pendant & Music Box as described in the accompanying announcement.

Signature: 
Orders subject to acceptance.

For fastest delivery: 1-800-726-1184 • www.danburymint.com

My Granddaughter, 
I Love You to the Moon and Back
Diamond Pendant & Music Box

She's your beloved granddaughter, and you'd travel to the ends of the earth to show her how much you adore her. Now, you can express your never-ending devotion to your dear granddaughter with an extraordinary gift available exclusively from the Danbury Mint.

Meaningful design; beautiful presentation.
The silver-plated crescent moon pendant features three sparkling diamonds. Nestled in the graceful arc of the moon rests a gleaming heart surrounded by 14kt gold-plated stars. The back is engraved with the words: "My granddaughter, I love you to the moon and back." The pendant arrives in an exquisite handcrafted wooden box, adorned with the same sentiment as the pendant. Once opened, the melody "Beautiful Dreamer" will begin to play.

Satisfaction guaranteed.
This pendant and music box can be yours to give for just $99 plus $7.50 shipping and service, payable in three monthly installments of $35. Your satisfaction is guaranteed. If you are not completely thrilled, return the set within 90 days for a full refund. Don't delay — order today!
Get gorgeous hair with WEN® after one use or your money back!*

NOW $19.95

+ FREE SHIPPING! **on introductory supply**

We're so confident that you'll love what WEN® can do for your hair, we'll give you your money back if you're not completely satisfied.*

Wealthy hair starts with the WEN® basic system:
- WEN® Cleansing Conditioner in Sweet Almond Mint
- Anti-Frizz Styling Creme in Sweet Almond Mint
- Bonus; WEN® ONE-TIME GIFT (a $25 value); WEN® Travel Kit — perfect for cleansing and refreshing your hair on the go. Available in Sweet Almond Mint.

Even better than our TV offer! ORDER NOW!

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○ Charge my: Visa D MasterCard D American Express D Discover D

*Signature

If paying by check or money order, please enclose $19.95 plus applicable sales tax, payable to WEN®. For shipments to CA, CO, IA, LA, NC, & PA, add sales tax to each shipment. Offer good for a limited time.
SAVE $10 ON PROACTIV® 3-PIECE KIT

Yes! I want to try Proactiv+ today!

Please send me my introductory 30-day supply of Proactiv+ plus my Deep Cleansing Brush gift ($45 value), and FREE Re-texturizing Toner, Skin Purifying Mask and Perfect Skin e¬Book—just for only $19.95 (Reg. $29.95). Including FREE SHIPPING & HANDLING.

(Add sales tax. See Offer Details for more information.)

60-DAY MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

If you’re not completely satisfied, simply return the bottles (even if empty) within 60 days of receipt and get a full refund (less s/h). The free gifts are yours to keep.

For faster service anytime:
Call 1-888-651-5734
Visit proactiv.com/buynow17

$10 INSTANT SAVINGS
PLUS FREE SHIPPING WITH THIS OFFER!

60-DAY MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

If you’re not completely satisfied, simply return the bottles (even if empty) within 60 days of receipt and get a full refund (less s/h). The free gifts are yours to keep.

For faster service anytime:
Call 1-888-651-5734
Visit proactiv.com/buynow17

FREE GIFT
Deep Cleansing Brush
For a fresh, clean and radiant look, try our Deep Cleansing Brush!
It now features continuous 360° rotation at two speeds to gently exfoliate and remove pore-clogging dirt, sweat and makeup.

Proactiv+, with Smart Target® Technology Works!
Prove it to yourself with a 30-day supply for only $19.95 (Reg. $29.95)

ACT NOW and receive:

FREE GIFT
Deep Cleansing Brush
For a fresh, clean and radiant look, try our Deep Cleansing Brush!
It now features continuous 360° rotation at two speeds to gently exfoliate and remove pore-clogging dirt, sweat and makeup.

Our smartest, fastest, most effective Proactiv® ever to help clear your acne.
- Exclusive Smart Target® Technology gets 2X more medicine in the pore where acne starts!
- Clears existing breakouts and helps prevent future ones from forming
- Minimizes dryness, irritation and redness

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Play your favorite games in puzzle island inside this section!

For more interactive puzzles and games, go to chicagotribune.com/games
Help Wanted Full Time

18S-Meadowbrook Lawn Maintenance
Lawn Sprinklers

Located just south of 31st Street on 40th Avenue, this position is responsible for the maintenance of the lawn sprinkler system. Equipment operator will start the season at a salary of $10.00 per hour. Overtime paid at time and a half. Equipment operator will be responsible for the maintenance of the sprinkler system, including watering and fertilizing. Position requires a strong work ethic, attention to detail, and the ability to work independently. Must be able to lift and carry heavy equipment. Must have a valid driver's license. No experience necessary. Excellent benefits include medical, dental, and vision insurance. Apply in person at 18S-Meadowbrook Lawn Maintenance, 18S-Meadowbrook, Chicago, IL 60628. Or call 773-436-0199 for more information.

Help Wanted Part Time

Route Sales Representatives

We are seeking experienced route sales representatives to sell our products to local businesses. The ideal candidate is someone who can work independently, is self-motivated, and has a strong work ethic. Preferred candidates will have a background in sales and have experience selling to businesses. Must be able to drive and have a valid driver's license. Excellent benefits include a competitive salary and the opportunity for career advancement. Please submit your resume to 18S-Meadowbrook Lawn Maintenance, 18S-Meadowbrook, Chicago, IL 60628. Or call 773-436-0199 for more information.

Help Wanted Full Time

Graphic Designer

We are seeking a Graphic Designer to join our team. The Graphic Designer will be responsible for creating graphic designs for our marketing materials and advertisements. The ideal candidate is someone who is creative, has a strong eye for design, and is skilled in using design software. Must be able to work independently and as part of a team. Excellent benefits include a competitive salary and the opportunity for career advancement. Please submit your resume to 18S-Meadowbrook Lawn Maintenance, 18S-Meadowbrook, Chicago, IL 60628. Or call 773-436-0199 for more information.

Help Wanted Part Time

Transportation

We are seeking a Transportation specialist to join our team. The Transportation specialist will be responsible for coordinating transportation for our customers. The ideal candidate is someone who is detail-oriented, has a strong work ethic, and is able to work independently. Must be able to drive and have a valid driver's license. Excellent benefits include a competitive salary and the opportunity for career advancement. Please submit your resume to 18S-Meadowbrook Lawn Maintenance, 18S-Meadowbrook, Chicago, IL 60628. Or call 773-436-0199 for more information.

Help Wanted Full Time

Drivers

We are seeking experienced drivers to join our team. The ideal candidate is someone who is detail-oriented, has a strong work ethic, and is able to work independently. Must be able to drive and have a valid driver's license. Excellent benefits include a competitive salary and the opportunity for career advancement. Please submit your resume to 18S-Meadowbrook Lawn Maintenance, 18S-Meadowbrook, Chicago, IL 60628. Or call 773-436-0199 for more information.

Help Wanted Full Time

Classification Specialist

We are seeking a Classification Specialist to join our team. The Classification Specialist will be responsible for classifying our products. The ideal candidate is someone who is detail-oriented, has a strong work ethic, and is able to work independently. Must be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Excellent benefits include a competitive salary and the opportunity for career advancement. Please submit your resume to 18S-Meadowbrook Lawn Maintenance, 18S-Meadowbrook, Chicago, IL 60628. Or call 773-436-0199 for more information.

Help Wanted Full Time

Equal Housing Opportunity

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any limitations based on race, color, religion, sex, handi-cap, familial status, or national origin. If you believe you have been discriminated against in connection with the sale or rental of housing, contact the nearest branch of the Federal Fair Housing Act.

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Chelsea Shopping Center

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Selling Your Stuff in the Classifieds

The most cost-effective way to sell your home, car or valuables! Call 866-399-0537 or go online to tribunesuburbs.com to place your advertisement.
### Weird Words: With various unusual properties

**BY LONNIE BURTON | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN**

(stanxwords.com)

**ACROSS**

1. **Heavy book**
2. **Collide**
3. **SF clock setting**
4. **Humorous**
5. **Pay tribute to**
6. **Jacuzzi genre**
7. **Lemmy**
8. **Genericized paper?**
9. **Olay competitor**
10. **Star of House, M.D.**
11. **Feudal estate**
12. **Demeaning**
13. **Casablanca**
14. **Verdi**
15. **Jacuzzi (repeated letters)**
16. **Pay tribute to**
17. **Verdi**
18. **Michael Lee Chirac**
19. **Humorous**
20. **Membership**
21. **Demeaning**
22. **Bendy nature**
23. **Mrs. Greenway**
24. **Demeaning**
25. **Juxtapose**
26. **Vin color**
27. **Mountain goat**
28. **Holiday Inn**
29. **Seek damages**
30. **Tots' safety devices**
31. **Selections on tap**
32. **Galileo lived there**
33. **Seethe**
34. **Saltaway**
35. **Nippon**
36. **Englishman**
37. **Note**
38. **Bastet, perhaps**
39. **“Contented sound”**
40. **“Good poker hands”**
41. **“_GOOD_”**
42. **“Render ... Caesar ...”**
43. **Contented sound**
44. **“You’re right!”**
45. **Rowed a boat**
46. **“Owen Time”**
47. **“Romanian gymnast”**
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116. **“Bastet, perhaps”**

**DOWN**

1. **Melodic**
2. **Timed perfectly**
3. **Bond after**
4. **Congnity**
5. **Regally clad, in a way**
6. **Ripken of baseball**
7. **Basto**
8. **Basto**
9. **Pro bono TV spot**
10. **Cultural pursuits**
11. **“Not exactly”**
12. **Patient**
13. **“Not exactly”**
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**Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island © 2015 Creators Syndicate. All rights reserved.**

For interactive puzzles and games go to chicagotribune.com/games
Quote-Acrostic

1. Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
2. Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram.
3. When pattern is completed, quotation can be read left to right. The first letters of the filled-in words reading down form an acrostic yielding the speaker’s name and the topic of the quotation.

Across

1. Sword’s superior
2. Campsite
3. Game born in India
4. Shadow’s nemesis
5. A Waugh
6. Penthouse suite
7. Al Capp character
8. Extreme
9. Say “cheese”
10. Way to pay
11. Author Deighton
12. Lobster mom
13. Buys, buys, buys
14. Stamp for a bill
15. Demonstration missile
16. Shaw, in Second Chorus
17. More or less
18. Zodiac division
19. World’s wealthiest person, once
20. Onetime wife of 34
21. Dundee don’ts
22. Cacophony
23. NHL great Dryden
24. Fat one’s nickname
25. On your side

Down

1. Stone
2. At all
3. Notable caravel
4. Tchaikovsky’s Marche
5. Spoons out
6. Distant relative?
7. The King and I star
8. Some signatures
9. Redeemed 20 Across
10. Muscle Beach strutters
11. Author Lustbader
12. Symbol of smoothness
13. Calls, in stud
14. Pliny the
15. Primary

Across

48. Banking letters
49. Bookkeeper’s concern
50. Bungles
51. Damage
52. Document application
53. Military tyro
54. Canal
55. Holding unit
56. Elusive creatures
57. Certain investments: abbr.

1. “Got milk?, for example.
2. Theatre at Waterloo and The Cut: 2 wds.
3. Surfer girl
4. Guts
5. Communications lines
6. Zizou of soccer
7. Mystery award

J. Disdain
K. Dot and spot
L. Subject of Funny Girl
M. State of being different
N. Unlikely
O. Meander
P. Thought
Q. Going well: 3 wds.
R. Trickery
S. It’s extraordinary
T. Unnely
U. Grand Ole Opry regular
V. Mystery award

Last week’s answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

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Across
1 Extra care
6 Sit in a cellar, say
10 Carpentry groove
14 Creme-filled cake
18 “Over the Rainbow” composer
19 Egyptian sky god
21 “Excuse me…”
22 Sharqiya Sands country
23 TEE
25 PITCH
27 Kosher deli offering
28 Millennium opener
30 Asian soup type
31 Territory
33 Tourney passes
35 “See you later!”
36 ChooseMyPlate.gov organization
39 SLICE
40 Treasure Island, 38 CHIP
42 R.E.M. vocalist
43 ROUGH
46 Court attendant
48 When a classic film gunshot started
49 Outdated messenger
50 Weather-sensitive expectation, briefly
51 Creme-filled snacks
53 Catchall phrase
56 Descartes’ law
57 Italian cheese
59 Muckraker Jacob
62 Merging places
63 Source of a cc
65 Put to rest
67 - factor
68 Co-creator of Mickey
69 Grammy winner Ronstadt
71 EAGLE
73 Candy shapes
74 Within: Pref.
75 Type
76 _ cake
77 Forsaken
78 Served with a creamy cheese sauce
80 Go (over) carefully
81 “My parents are gonna kill me!”
84 Pickles on “Rugrats”
85 Mark to come back to
89 Hot
91 Usher’s “Looking 4 Myself” label
92 As a friend, to
94 Everest expert
97 Card message
99 Not accustomed to
100 HOOK
102 Together, in scores
103 Neighbor of Ghana
105 _ Mawr College
106 Range of power
108 “Beat it!”
111 CenturyLink Center city
112 Light color
113 Rubbish
116 LIE
117 CenturyLink Center city
119 GREEN
122 Light color
123 Bluesy James
124 Handle
125 Taunt
126 Mud dauber, e.g.
127 Way to go on the gridiron?
128 NBA part: Abbr.
129 City on Germany’s A40

Down
1 EMILY’s List, for one
7 Contented sounds
8 “Scram, kid!”
10污染Asian sea
11 She left Casablanca with Victor
12 Unaligned
13 Untrustworthy sort
14 Unaligned
15 Co-star of Julie in “Doctor Zhivago”
16 Ring of light
17 Like some GIs in a mess
18 Asus
19 _ check
20 Extend a visit
21 Spring game!
22 Goarmy.com virtual guide
23 Friday’s creator
24 Long sentence
25 _ - check
26 Goarmy.com virtual guide
27 1974 Peace
28 _ check
29 Friday’s creator
30 Long sentence
31 _ check
32 _ - check
33 Super, slangily
34 _ - check
35 _ - check
36 _ - check
37 1974 Peace
38 CHIP
39 SLICE
40 Treasure Island, e.g.
41 _ nutshell
43 ROUGH
44 “Sexiest Man Alive” magazine
45 Lives
47 Pythagoras’ homeland
52 Maker of the SurfaceScrub floor cleaner
54 Security item
55 Publicity
58 Effervor
59 Muckraker Jacob
60 “So _ thee unforgiven”;
61 Scam
62 Merging places
63 Prize
64 Buttstick of the day
65 Put to rest
66 Film villain with prosthetic hands
67 Between: Pref.
68 Curb-all
69 Dull gray, as winter skies
70 _ skating
71 Tough walk
72 2012 NFL MVP
73 Reindeer name
74 Hearing promise
75 Intelligentia
76 They may reduce sentences
77 Scopes Trial gp.
78 Buttermilk lover
79 Evans
80 Paul Anka’s “_ Beso”
82 Scopes Trial gp.
83 Fearsome
84 _ check
85 “Sexiest Man Alive” magazine
86 Effervor
87 Starbuck’s boss
88 Back in
89 First Met to win a Gold Glove
90 Contest
91 Poetic works
92 Cure-all
93 Long sentence
94 Smartphone ancestors
95 Poetic works
96 Cure-all
97 Long sentence
98 Effervor
99 Not accustomed to
100 South Dakota’s state animal
101 Surgical procedures
102 Like some estates
103 Center of the Miao civilization
104 Like some estates
105 _ check
106 Range of power
107 Center of the Miao civilization
108 Not many
109 Glittery mineral
110 Lith. and Ukr., once
111 Otherwise
112 Soil-scraping tools
113 Unaligned
114 Smartphone ancestors
115 Otherwise
116 Way to go: Abbr.
117 Effervor
118 Talk foolishly
119 Pal of Harry
120 Pal of Harry
121 Japanese cabbage?

Jumble
Unscramble the six Jumbles, one letter per square, to form six words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.

Sudoku
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

Last week’s answers appear on the next page

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2015 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.
This week's Jumble

MANAGE TRENCH COBALT AFLOAT INHALE UNFAIR

When Little League baseball was created in 1939, it was popular with players and fans — RIGHT OFF THE BAT

chicago tribune.com / games

Interactive puzzles and games

upsides

By Jeremy Newton / Puzzles Edited by Will Shortz

ACROSS
1 Seat at a hoopdown
6 Brothela
10 Go
13 Cliff Huxtable or Ward Cleaver
18 Like some muscles and baby food
19 Parks staying put
20 One for war?
21 Like the veal in osso buco
22 They can knock out lightweights
24 Sleep (with)
26 Pope during the rule of Emperor Constantine IV
27 Ghetto blaster?
28 Virgil epic
29 Slapped on, as paint
30 Jazz band instrument
31 Quality that's a bit unsettling
34 Whitesmith's medium
35 Watched some online videos
36 Like sweet and some maccasins
38 With 91-Across, superanty... or like 24 Across answers in this puzzle?
40 Milo hunter
41 Retired runway model
42 "Right you..."
44 Open to debate
45 2007 film featuring Raphaël, Leonardo, Dottorelli and Michelangelo
46 Country singer Tacke
49 Slow
50 Final Four org.
52 "I must remember this for later..."
55 Ring
57 Dinner that was prepared hours ago, say
58 Opposite of totaly
63 Drill (into)
64 Prove useful
65 Nice thing about purchases in Delaware and Oregon
66 Plays a ukulele
67 Moose or mouse
69 One getting hammered
70 Part of two state name
72 Authority over sheriffs in England
73 Down under marsupial
75 Grp. that meets in Albany
77 Perv, e.g.
78 It's not so bad
79 Flimsy
80 Secretly adds to emails
81 "Tearin' Up My Heart" group
83 Feats of Keats
85 Sittcom alien
86 Something e-cigarettes lack
87 Scream
88 Coffee container
91 See 38-Across
92 Two notes from a tuba
95 Cupful before sleep, maybe
98 Bungled
99 Popular dessert in Georgia
101 It's at one end of a rainbow
103 Model add-ons
104 Spiff up
105 Boston skyscraper, with "the"
107 Driver's license, but not a credit card, e.g.
109 Chart for weighing options
110 Food processor?
112 Strips bare
114 Madeira Mrs.
115 "You must..." (order to an earthling)
116 Brave
117 Stopping point
118 Water source
119 Richard of "Shall We Dance?"
120 Old-fashioned fraternity activity

DOWN
1 Targets of some cryosurgery
2 Facilities overseen by the C.D.C.
3 Adds
4 Playroom block
5 Swirled
6 Turkey Day follower
7 Hi-fi sound?
8 With suspicion
9 Lavender or lilac
10 Lights up
11 Flu symptom
12 Wasn't joking
13 Tromped on
14 Morrison who sang "Brown Eyed Girl"
15 Subside
16 28-Across
17 It's a first
18 Entity
22 Rag on
23 Rag on
25 Full (in)
32 Aussie "Morning"
33 Nina who sang "I Put a Spell on You"
35 Kind of joke
37 When brunch might be served
39 "Whew!"
43 Pure bliss
45 Pinch
47 "It's sad but true..."
48 Eagles or Ravens
49 Capital Tidabers
50 Bally opera
51 Without a hitch
52 "Grand" mountain
53 Source of eggs
54 Some risqué communiques
55 Ring
56 Many pages are written in it
57 Campus dining area
58 Captain America portrayed
59 "Duck Dynasty" network
60 Source of bile
62 Steam
63 Luxuriate
67 Apple Store display
68 There might be one on a car
71 Capital that's the seat of Lewis and Clark County
73 Amuse
74 Music-licensing grp.
76 "God's Son" rapper
77 Lot of junk
80 Show of respect
82 Cutting class?
83 Sketch
84 Get all decked out
85 Selfish, as an attitude
86 Credit (to)
88 Travel as a group, in a way
89 Liberals
91 Saturday morning fare, informally
92 "That's close enough!"
93 Pole or Pop
95 Many Manets
96 Get together
97 Encountered
100 More epic
102 Book before bedtime, maybe
104 One seeking money for a meter?
105 Vial liquids
108 Martin's wife on the 1990s sitcom "Martin"
110 "What'll I do?"
112 Closely monitor
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1. PROJECT: Small School District No. 74 in accordance with the Small District No. 74 Construction Covenants.
2. ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS: Bids will be received for an additional 100 days effective April 15, 2015. The District reserves the right to award the work of the successful bidder.
3. TIME OF BIDDING: Bids will be publicly opened and announced at 3:00 PM on April 15, 2015, at the District Office. At this time the District will be recognized for electronic bidding.
4. LAST DAY FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS: All bids must be submitted in writing on or before 3:00 PM on April 15, 2015. All bids received after that time and date will not be considered.
5. QUESTIONS: Bidders are encouraged to submit any questions regarding this Request for Proposal to: Mr. Cassio DaSilva, 1100 South Prairie Avenue, Chicago, IL 60654. Telephone: 312-222-0136. Fax: 312-222-0137. Email: cassio.dasilva@gsd74.org.

Bid Notice
Registered or motor vehicles are sold AS is/Parts Only, no titles or registration.

Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale after Wednesday, April 15, 2015, at Life Storage of Humboldt Park, 4014 W. Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 60618. Phone number 773-235-2884. Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale after March 10, 2015, at Life Storage of Little Village, 3232 W. 30th St., Chicago, Illinois 60623. Phone number 773-377-3070.

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Getting a good taste of gluten-free foods

Author tries out other types of flour in baking

BY MARY MACVEAN
Tribune Newspapers

The early generation of gluten-free baked goods tended to be imitations, often not very good ones, of cakes and cookies usually made with wheat flour. Kristine Kidd, cookbook writer and former Bon Appetit magazine food editor, is among those trying another tack: She looked at the flours that have no gluten — almond, buckwheat and sorghum among them — and figured out how to bake.

The result is her second book on cooking without gluten, "Gluten-Free Baking" (Weldon Owen, $24.95). Her first was "Weeknight Gluten-Free."

"I did not want to make copies of things that are better made with wheat flour. That's just going to be disappointing," Kidd said.

When she learned her celiac disease had resurfaced several years ago, she began exploring a new world of cooking.

"First I started doing things that were naturally gluten-free," she said. And those are in the book: meringues with chocolate and ginger, coconut macaroons dipped in chocolate and cookies that use nut meals rather than flour. Included are a cheesecake, a flourless chocolate cake with dried cherries, rice pudding and Indian Pudding.

There also is a version of the first recipe she ever made, with her grandmother, pecan thumbprint cookies, this time using brown rice flour.

Most people who avoid gluten do so for health reasons, they have celiac disease or other sensitivities to gluten, which is found in wheat, barley and rye. Or they believe their diets are generally more healthful without gluten. So it's perhaps surprising to read the ingredient lists of many gluten-free baked goods on the market.

"I noticed that most of the gluten-free prepared foods and the mixes focus on the white starches that are bad for you — corn, potato, white rice. I wanted to explore the grains that are healthy for you," Kidd said.

In her research, sorghum came up over and over, she said. It's a grass, often used in this country as animal feed and to make molasses. But the flour is available in Whole Foods and health food stores, as well as some supermarkets.

"It's a nutrient-dense grain, and it's got a very sweet neutral flavor. It became my basic flour," Kidd said. It doesn't bind ingredients, however, so she used eggs or xanthan gum for that.

Several muffins and scones are among the 80 recipes in "Gluten-Free Baking." Kidd uses cornmeal, which adds texture and taste, along with the sorghum flour, for cornmeal-pecan muffins. They also include orange zest and cinnamon, rose perfectly and seemed very close to gluten-y muffins. And corn, of course, is a great morning flavor.

People often ask Kidd for gluten-free recipes for white sandwich bread or challah. "To make them work well, they'd have to be just white starches. I try to keep white starches down to a quarter of the total," she said.

But she understands the motivation. At a gluten-free conference a few years back, she said, many people had just begun to avoid gluten. "They wanted to do what they had always done: 'My mother always made me chocolate cake for my birthday, so I'm just going to go to that mix.'"

Now they don't have to.

Gluten-free bread is among the recipes in Kidd's book that use such flours as almond, buckwheat and sorghum.
Call for study on the risk of anesthesia for babies

BY LAURAN NEERGAARD
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Studies of baby animals have long suggested that going under anesthesia can have some harmful effects on a developing brain. Now some scientists want to find out whether those same drugs may pose subtle risks for human babies and toddlers.

It's a balancing act: Doctors don't want to unnecessarily frighten parents whose tots need general anesthesia for crucial surgery. There's no clear evidence of side effects, such as learning or attention impairment, in youngsters.

Anesthesia research group that is partnered with the Food and Drug Administration said last month that it's time for a large study of children younger than 3 to settle the question.

Meanwhile, "surgeons, anesthesiologists and parents should consider carefully how urgently surgery is needed, particularly in children under 3 years of age," concluded a report in the New England Journal of Medicine, co-authored by the FDA's current and former anesthesia chiefs along with doctors in the SmartTots research partnership.

Already, in the vast majority of cases, children that young only undergo surgery if it is medically necessary, not elective. Some operations, such as to correct birth defects, have better outcomes at earlier ages, surgeons recently told the FDA. "Millions of kids safely undergo anesthesia," stressed Dr. Beverley Orser, SmartTots co-author and a professor of anesthesia at the University of Toronto.

Those drugs have been used for decades, so any big risk would have been spotted by now, she said. But with animal studies raising the possibility of subtle effects on behavior or learning, "we have to sort this out," Orser added.

At issue are drugs used for general anesthesia and sedation, not local anesthetics. Questions began years ago when experiments in newborn rats showed such drugs could kill certain brain cells. The FDA formed a partnership with the International Anesthesia Research Society, called SmartTots, to better study the issue. In 2012, SmartTots, the FDA and the American Academy of Pediatrics issued a public caution about the uncertainty.

Last month's report says studies in a range of species, including baby monkeys, have found similar neurotoxic effects. Do they have lasting consequences? In some cases, the animals showed later impairments in memory and attention. Importantly, the cumulative dose mattered.

That doesn't automatically translate to risk for humans. A few studies have tracked youngsters who underwent anesthesia earlier in life. Some haven't found problems, but one found that those who received anesthesia multiple times had a higher risk of learning disabilities. Yet those kinds of studies can't tell if any problem was due to a drug, the stress of surgery or the original medical condition, Orser noted.

The proposed next step: A large, multinational study that would assign youngsters now undergoing surgery to different kinds of anesthesia and compare their outcomes.

What's the message for parents? Occasionally, some ask about this issue, and doctors must help them weigh an unknown risk with the fact that "your child needs to have surgery, and they do need an anesthetic," said Dr. Allison Kinder Ross, chief of pediatric anesthesiology at Duke University Medical Center, who wasn't involved with the report.

But anesthesia is used with some nonsurgical procedures, such as to keep tots still during MRI scans, and Ross said that's an area to try alternatives. "Under 3 is certainly more challenging, but it's doable for a lot of kids," Ross said.

In June, SmartTots convened doctors groups to update its earlier cautionary statement, and a draft being considered suggests postponing surgeries or other medical procedures "that could reasonably be delayed" in children under 3.

Medical experts urge caution before using anesthesia with children under 3 years old.

Skin patch trial could offer peanut allergy relief

Researchers tout potential of the new treatment

BY JONEL ALECCIA
The Seattle Times

A skin patch that experts say could be a breakthrough treatment for peanut allergy sufferers appears to be both safe and effective, according to an early-stage clinical trial to test the potentially lifesaving technology.

The Viaskin Peanut patch made by the French biotech firm DBV Technologies boosted the amount of peanut protein into the bloodstream, where they trigger allergic shock.

"What they wanted was to find out, on average, if patients could tolerate at least tenfold as much peanut protein after being on the patch as before being on the patch," said Dr. Stephen Tilles, a physician in a Seattle practice that oversaw 11 participants.

It's a novel treatment that poses fewer challenges — and dangers — than allergy shots or oral immunotherapy, in which sufferers eat small amounts of reaction-producing foods to desensitize their bodies to the triggers, Tilles said.

For 11-year-old Spencer Baty, of Issaquah, Wash., one of the participants in the peanut-patch trial, the test has been a success. He went from having an allergic reaction to as little as one-tenth of a peanut to having a reaction only when exposed to 10 or more peanuts.

That could mean the difference between having or avoiding a potentially fatal reaction, said Lisa Geschke Sawyer, a spokeswoman for the Seattle Food Allergy Consortium.

The next step is a phase III clinical trial, the final hurdle before submitting the product for consideration by the Food and Drug Administration. If all goes well, the product could be available in 2018, Tilles said.
CULINARY GIANT LENA RICHARD

Carved culinary path for African-Americans

New Orleans caterer, restaurateur, author and television pioneer

BY BILL DALEY
Tribune Newspapers

Lena Richard was “a Martha Stewart before there was a Martha Stewart.”

The quote from Liz Williams, president of the Southern Food and Beverage Museum in New Orleans, is an apt comparison, for Richard was a chef, caterer, restaurateur, frozen food entrepreneur, cooking teacher, cookbook author, wife, mother, grandmother — and host of her own cooking show on New Orleans television, a singular achievement for an African-American in the segregated South of the late 1940s.

“She’s important because she stepped out on the water when there was no guarantee it would hold her up,” says food historian Jessica B. Harris, author of “High on the Hog: A Culinary Journey from Africa to America.”

“She was the first, an extraordinary first. The television thing she did makes her phenomenal. To be that person on-air in New Orleans at the time was extraordinary... She did and created so much stuff, she made a path.”

Richard “was an inspirational leader,” agreed Toni Tipton-Martin, the Austin, Texas-based author, community activist and creator of “The Jemima Code,” a pop-up exhibit, blog and upcoming book exploring the legacies of African-American cooks.

“She operated her restaurant in a manner to bring along the next generation.”

That intent was made clear in the preface to Richard’s cookbook, “New Orleans Cook Book.”

“My purpose in opening a cooking school was to teach men and women the art of food preparation and serving in order that they would become capable of preparing and serving food for any occasion and also that they might be in a position to demand higher wages,” Richard wrote.

She was born Lena Paul in New Roads, La. (Many sources list the year as 1892, but the New Orleans Times-Picayune, in its notice of her death from a heart attack on Nov. 27, 1950, gives her age as 51.) She began her career as a domestic — “like so many others of her time,” wrote Harris in “High on the Hog.” Her employers, the Vairin family of New Orleans, sent her for culinary training first locally and then to Boston at the school founded by Fannie Farmer.

Lena Paul returned to New Orleans after graduation in 1918 and began catering, according to Karen Trahan Leathem, author of "Two Women and their Cookbooks: Lena Richard and Mary Land," a guide to a 2001 exhibit sponsored by Tulane University’s Newcomb College in New Orleans. She married Percival Richard and opened the first in a series of restaurants. The cooking school opened in 1937.

Her cookbook was published in 1939 as “Lena Richard’s Cook Book.” Aided by Clementine Paddleford, the New York Herald Tribune food writer, Richard landed a contract with Houghton Mifflin, which re-issued her work in 1940 under a new title, “New Orleans Cook Book.”

It was also around this time, in the early 1940s, that Richard left New Orleans, first to cook at an inn in Garrison, N.Y., and then in 1943 as chef at the Travis House in Colonial Williamsburg, Va.

“But the city that inspired her creativity pulled her back, and she returned here to become a television cooking show pioneer,” Leathem wrote.

Television was in its infancy in the late 1940s. Few people had television sets. Ashley Young, who curated an exhibit, “Lena Richard: Pioneer in Food TV” for the Southern Food and Beverage museum, said there are no known clips of the 15-minute program.


Williams rues the lack of a video record: “If we had kinetics... she would be all over YouTube.”

Yet Richard’s various ventures touched many in The Crescent City, said Young, a Pittsburgh resident and doctoral candidate at Duke University in Durham, N.C.

Richard was an African-American woman who made a name for herself in the Jim Crow South, said Young, adding, “She not only worked with an elite white population in New Orleans, she used that leverage to make a change for the African-American community.”

Nutrition Information per serving: 211 calories, 6 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 8 mg cholesterol, 28 g carbohydrates, 13 g protein, 625 mg sodium, 9 g fiber

Lena Richard’s “New Orleans Cook Book” included Creole cooked red beans, which simmer for hours to achieve a wonderfully creamy consistency. Richard was a trailblazer for African-Americans.
THE WOW FACTOR
Housewares show offers solutions to culinary problems

By Judy Hevrdejs | Tribune Newspapers

Problem solvers of the world filled the 2015 International Home + Housewares Show in Chicago recently with solutions to quite a few culinary conundrums.

Spread across 13 miles of aisles, the industry-only show featured 21,000 exhibitors showcasing their juicers and food choppers, cooking tools, goofy gadgets and apps — including one that sets a coffee maker’s brewing temp, volume, etc., and another that coaches home bartenders — to the 60,000 attendees. Some of the items may be in stores or online now; others will show up later this year.

Some were impressive, of course. A see-through toaster from iTouchless and a countertop unit by Olive X-Press that lets consumers press their own olive oil. And some were simply solutions to annoying culinary problems, including these that got our attention.

One cool rolling pin: Keith Neilson, an engineer from Traverse City, Mich., “wanted to redesign a kitchen staple.” He and the team at KMN Home tackled the rolling pin, creating an aluminum tube marked with inches. Its matte finish (available in a variety of colors) allows flour to lightly adhere during rolling. Plus, the pin can be chilled in the refrigerator — helpful when rolling out pastry dough.

Great grindin’: For those who want to grind their own flour at home, Mockmill offers a KitchenAid attachment that holds two grinding stones, which can make a fine flour or coarser grinds from nonoily grains, legumes and spices.

See the light: LED lights are showing up on more kitchen tools. Grillight Spatula from Holton Products, introduced last year, is joined this year by a fish turner, tongs, brush and fork, all sporting a light in the handle, said Holton’s Colton Knittig. At OXO, LED lights have been added to its illuminating digital hand-held mixer and illuminating digital immersion blender.

Soft-cooked eggs perfected: Engineer Rupprecht Gabriel was frustrated with his inability to make a perfect soft-cooked egg, telling his son Markus: “I have the brains to figure this out.” So he invented the BeepEgg, a floating, musical egg that boils along with regular eggs, playing a tune when the eggs reach the desired doneness. There are different tunes for different regions, explained Markus, who was at the show. One version plays “Give My Regards to Broadway” for soft, “Forty-Five Minutes From Broadway” for medium and “Sidewalks of New York” for hard. Already in Europe, the German family’s Brainstream business is scheduled to bring BeepEgg to the U.S. later this year.

Tame the tears: For those who weep while chopping onions, Mastrad’s Onion Mask features foam padding on the frame to seal out irritants that prompt the waterworks.

Clean-cut apple cutter: Bothered by the last bit of apple core hanging onto your current apple slicer? OXO’s PopOut Apple Divider solves the problem with a flexible cover that lets you push the last bit of fruit through the slicer without your fingers touching the blade.

Dual-fuel grilling: Tailgaters and RV folks wanted a grill that would cook with charcoal or electricity, so the Meco folks in Greeneville, Tenn., created the Wherever Grill, a 12-pound Portable Dual-Fuel Charcoal and Electric Grill that has a removable inner pan for each heat source.

Mockmill
Carrot frittelle with feta cheese

Prep: 30 minutes  Cook: A few minutes per batch
Makes: 32 to 36 frittelle

- 5 large carrots
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 4 large eggs, beaten
- 1/2 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1/4 cup rye flour
- 3 tablespoons grated pecorino Romano
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 8 ounces goat's milk feta cheese or regular feta, coarsely grated
- 1 lemon, cut into wedges

1. Shred the carrots in your food processor using the finest grating disk, or on the finest holes of a box grater. Place the shredded carrots in a large bowl; season with salt and pepper. Add the eggs, panko breadcrumbs, rye flour and caciotta; stir to combine.

2. In a 10- to 12-inch nonstick saute pan, heat the oil. Add the carrot mixture, 1 tablespoon at a time; cook, turning over once, until fritters are golden brown on both sides. Transfer the fritters to a serving platter; repeat until you have used all the carrot mixture. Sprinkle with feta; serve with lemon wedges.

Nutrition Information per fritter (for 36 fritters): 40 calories, 3 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 22 mg cholesterol, 2 g carbohydrates, 2 g protein, 81 mg sodium, 0 g fiber

Carrot fritters with feta cheese

Fact: I enjoy everything Venetian. A region filled, on one hand, with rolling hills and elegant mountains, and on the other, with historic canals, lagoons and the sea. Sandwiched between the sea and hills are the provinces of Verona and Vicenza. Here, all of Veneto's elements come together to create a beautifully wondrous area for locals and an even better one for tourists who look for varied cuisine.

Carrot frittelle is a traditional antipasto all over the region of Veneto, where cooks will replace the carrots with any firm vegetable, depending on the season.

A savory side dish, carrot frittelle translates to carrot pancakes or fritters. Serve these as a snack with a glass of wine prior to dinner, as the brilliant northern Italians do.

I cooked these carrot frittelle sans vino for Dr. Mehmet Oz last fall while on my book tour promoting “America Farm to Table: Simple, Delicious Recipes Celebrating Local Farmers.” He loved everything about them, from the vitamin A content to the healthier olive oil used for frying.

I'm convinced that, above all the health benefits, Oz enjoyed this recipe for the very reason I do: the tangy richness of coarsely grated feta cheese combined with the flavor of sweet, earthy carrots.

In this recipe, I recommend using two cheeses: caciotta and goat's milk feta. But you could substitute local cheeses from wherever you like. Look for a crumbly cheese that will make the flavor somewhat pungent, such as Italian ricotta salata, blue cheese or Mexican cotija.

Mario Batali is the award-winning chef behind 24 restaurants including Babbo, DelPosto, and his flagship Greenwich Village enoteca.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency.

Playing hardball

Brown-butter spaghetti squash

Prep: 1 hour  Cook: 10 minutes  Makes: 2-3 side-dish servings

1 small (1/2 pounds) spaghetti squash
3 tablespoons unsalted butter
6 sage leaves
1/4 cup chopped walnuts
2 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
1/4 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese

1. Roast: Split squash the long way. Scoop out and discard seeds. Set squash cut-side down on a rimmed baking sheet and slide into a 375-degree oven. Roast until soft when gently squeezed and easy to poke with a fork, 50-60 minutes.

2. Shred: When cool enough to handle, scrape squash flesh from its shell with a fork. It will magically fall into spaghetti-style strands. Discard shells.

3. Sizzle: In a medium saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Drop in sage leaves; fry until they turn dark and crisp, about 3 minutes. Lift out leaves; set aside. Tumble in walnuts; toast, stirring, until golden brown, about 5 minutes. Drop in garlic; stir until it turns golden, about 1 minute. Slide in squash strands; toss.

4. Serve: When squash is hot, heap onto serving plates. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, dust with cheese, crumble on sage and serve.

Spaghetti squash, a hearty crop that holds its own all winter, makes for a tasty side dish when tossed with garlic and nutty brown butter, and dusted with cheese to finish.
Hop to it: A taste of local Easter brunches

**By Tom Witom**

Hyatt Regency O'Hare, 9300 Bryn Mawr Ave., Rosemont, (847) 696-1234 Ext. 4602. This popular brunch is designed to offer something to appeal to a broad spectrum of diners as they stop at buffet stations highlighting seafood, breakfast fare, waffles, Italian specialties, sushi, carved delicacies and desserts, including gluten-free choices. Prices are $48 per adult and $26.50 for children aged 5 to 12. Seatings will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bar Louie at Holiday Inn Skokie, 5300 Touhy, Skokie, (847) 763-3068. The Easter brunch buffet is spread out and includes cold and hot food tables, including carving, pasta, waffle, omelet and dessert stations and a bakery corner. The $26.95 tab for adults includes a choice of champagne or mimosa; children aged 5 to 12 are $14.95. Service goes from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cafe Touche, 6731 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago, (773) 775-0909, CafeTouche.com. Full brunch offerings available between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

White Pines Golf Club & Banquets, 500 W. Jefferson St., Bensenville, (630) 766-0304. The Easter brunch has a lineup that will include traditional favorites as well as some culinary surprises from Executive Chef Rich Mancini. The charge for adults is $35.95 and for children 5 to 10, $15.95. Servings run from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Bloody Mary and champagne bars are available at an additional cost.

Ten Mile House, 1700 Central St, Evanston, in the Hilton-Orrington/Evanston Hotel, (847) 556-7913. Ten Mile House is planning a grand Easter brunch with a buffet-style meal and live musical entertainment. Greg Carter will offer a menu filled with comfort-food favorites. Reservations are recommended, and serving hours are from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The price is $42 per adult and $21 for children 5 to 10 years old.

Found, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, (847) 868-8945, FoundKitchen.com. Found celebrates Easter Sunday with a special spring-centric, family-style menu, available from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Chef Nicole Pederson offers a selection of items from kale and Swiss chard salad with cranberries, candied nuts and seeds as well pan-roasted salmon with crispy polenta, arugula and Meyer lemon. The family-style brunch menu is $38 for adults and $18 for kids. The standard a la carte dinner menu also will be offered from 5 to 8:30 p.m. with certain specials available.

Convito Café and Market, 1515 Sheridan Road, Wilmette, (847) 251-2654, ConvitoCafeandMarket.com. Easter brunch specials like grilled rack of lamb, honey lavender roasted ham and convito hash will be offered with the regular menu from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Pete Miller's Evanston, 1587 Sherman Ave, Evanston, (847) 328-0399, PeteMillers.com. Easter brunch runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a carving station, waffle bar, seafood station, omelet station and sweets table. Pricing is $46.99 for adults, $23.50 for kids ages 6-10, free ages 5 and younger.

Chicago Botanic Garden, Nichols Hall, Regenstein Center, 1000 Lake-Cook Road, Glencoe, (847) 835-5440. Celebrate spring and enjoy a festive Easter brunch. The menu includes breakfast pastries, turkey and glazed ham from a carving station, a spring vegetable quiche and vanilla French toast bread pudding, among other dishes. Bloody Marys, mimosas and champagne cocktails are available for purchase. Tickets are $32 for adults and $24 for children 3 to 12 years old; members get a discount. After brunch, stop in the Rose Garden for an Easter egg hunt.

French toast at Convito Café & Market in Wilmette.

Plenty of restaurants will be serving up Easter brunch, some adding specialty items to the menu and others offering large buffet spreads.
John Patrick Shanley's "Outside Mullingar" may be odd and flawed, but it is also rarely less than en-grossing in the Northlight Theatre production running through April 19. Both a romance and a meditation on death, legacy and the deep pain that results when dreams are stymied for decades, "Outside Mullingar" is lyrically rich and marvelously acted.

Director BJ Jones has assembled a top-tier quartet for Shanley's gently moving and deeply emo-tional drama. Tony Reilly (William J. Norris) is a cantankerous, prickly farmer who is perpetually cruel, especially toward his son, Anthony (Mark Montgomery). The two men are farmers, or at least Anthony is, the son shouldering the vast burden of sunup-to-sundown hay baling and calf-pulling required to keep the family farm viable.

At lights up, Tony and Anthony are coming in from the rain, returning from a funeral for their neighbor, Chris Muldoon. Muldoon's widow Aoife (Annabel Armour) is also present in the Reilly's drab kitchen, where casual conversation deftly reveals the long-seated strife, bitterness, resignation and rage that the Muldoons and the Reillys have endured. The fourth part of the quartet is Aoife's daughter, Rosemary (Kate Fry), a barb-tongued woman who - like Anthony - uses curt, defen-sive language as a suit of armor. It's clear almost from the start that Anthony and Rosemary belong together. From their first scene together, you suspect Shanley is setting up a plot that will end with a glorious and satisfying embrace.

But well before the de-nouement, Shanley haunt-ingly covers a good deal of other ground. The low-key plot centers in part on a strip of land that Tony Reilly sold to Chris Muldoon decades earlier. Shan-ley unveils the significance of the contested property gradually, and in doing so, opens up an evocative conversation about the power of lifelong grudges and hidden agendas.

What makes the piece work so well are the per-formances Jones gets from his marvelous cast. Montgomery wears the primal pain of a wounded animal on his face, even in the more lighthearted moments. Fry's Rosemary is similarly broken, but never without a core of fiery optimism that allows her to take charge of her life at its lowest point.

Where "Outside Mullingar" falters is in the ex-tremely strange final ad-mission by Anthony. It's bizarrely troubling enough to set your mind to won-dering whether Anthony is an undiagnosed schizo-phrenic - especially given Tony's repeated (and un-explained) references to the "madness" that ran in his late wife's family. And once you start wondering whether Anthony might need anti-psychotics, the romance at the play's core becomes a secondary issue.

That said, "Outside Mul-lingar" is compelling from start to finish. It's sweet, sad and bracingly unsenti-mental. Shanley finds poet-ry and profundity in dirt and rain and fractured families, and that poetry is simply gorgeous.
Robert Costanzo is a fan of Neil Simon's early plays. That's why the Los Angeles-based actor, whose 40-plus years in show business includes appeared in such movies as "Total Recall" and "Honeymoon in Vegas," was willing to brave Chicago's frigid early March temperatures to direct "Last of the Red Hot Lovers" for Emergent Theatre Company. The show runs March 27-April 19 at the Mayer Kaplan JCC Theatre in Skokie.

The "Red Hot Lover" of the title is Barney Cashman, a successful restaurateur who has been married for a long time and who is facing a midlife crisis. His solution is to attempt an extramarital affair - three times.

Although the play is set in the 1960s, Costanzo believes it is relevant today. "Barney's plight is universal," he explained. "Going through life, touching all the bases, leading an ordinary life and wanting something more out of it."

Costanzo played Barney at a non-Equity dinner theater in Evansville, Ind. about 40 years ago, when he was in his 20s. This time around the role is handled by Jim Saltouros, Emergent's founder and co-artistic director. "He looks almost like Jack Lemmon. He's the right age - late 40s," Costanzo said.

Saltouros is also a fan of the playwright. "I love Neil Simon," he said. "He writes to play the lead in "Last of the Red Hot Lovers" because, "Barney kind of fascinated me and frightened me and intrigued me and interested me," Saltouros said. "I thought this is something that I'd like the chance to tackle because there are parts of him that are similar to me and there are parts of him that couldn't be further away from me."

The ways in which Saltouros is like his character include, "That part of him that wants to connect," the actor admitted. "I thought this is something that I'd like the chance to tackle because there are parts of him that are similar to me and there are parts of him that couldn't be further away from me."

Saltouros is enjoying being directed by Costanzo. "He's like my big brother," the actor declared. "We go back about 20 years. It's always great to work with him."

Costanzo is glad to be directing this play in a city he loves. "I want to do comedies," he said. "I think people need to laugh and want to laugh."
FAMILY FRIENDLY

Tina Rose and Jeremy Babcock perform as the Dreamtree Shakers Duo on March 31 at Lincolnwood Library.

Dreamtree Shakers Duo takes flight in Lincolnwood

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

The Lincolnwood Public Library will be filled with birds when the Dreamtree Shakers Duo performs, 10-10:45 a.m. Tuesday, March 31 at 4000 W. Pratt Ave. That’s because Tina Rose will help preschoolers and their parents make origami birds.

The show is going to be loosely based around the theme of flight,” explained singer/guitarist Jeremy Babcock. “We’re going to do a lot of songs about birds.”

There will be many original Babcock tunes including, “Quigley the Pig,” who builds his own wings to fly. “I feel very blessed to be able to do these shows where about 90 percent of the show is original songs,” the songwriter said.

Babcock pre-tests his tunes on his 4-year-old son. He also has experience working with the younger set as a Wiggles instructor at the Old Town School of Folk Music.

Rose will keep the kids involved: “She’s really good at getting kids moving and interacting,” Babcock said.

Reservations are required.

For details, call 847-677-5277, ext. 232 or go to lincolnwoodlibrary.org.

Mess for success

Kids ages 2-7 will color with finger paints, mold moon sand into shapes and explore sensory bins at Messy Hands, Busy Minds, 1-2 p.m. Saturday, April 4 at Eisenhower Public Library, 4613 N. Oketo Ave., Harwood Heights. Registration is required. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

For details, call 708-867-2298 or go to eisenhowerlibrary.org.

Search the park in the dark

That’s the plan for a Flashlight Egg Hunt, 7-8:15 p.m. Thursday, April 2 at Maine Park, 2701 W. Sibley, Park Ridge. Kids ages 7-11 should bring a flashlight and a bag or basket for collecting eggs. Pre-registration is required. The cost is $6 for residents, $11 for nonresidents.

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

Touting talented teens

The walls of the Radmacher Gallery and Foyer at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. will be decorated with artworks by students in District 219 during April. Everyone is invited to admire their creations at a District 219 Student Art Exhibit Opening Reception, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday April 2.

For details, call 847-673-7774 or go to skokielibrary.info.

Royal way to spend the day

“The Princess Bride” is the selected School’s Out Movie, 2-3:45 p.m. Friday, April 3 at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St. The PG-rated romantic comedy adventure film, narrated by Peter Falk, runs 98 minutes.

For details, call 847-663-1234 or go to www.nileslibrary.orghttp://www.nileslibrary.org.

Take time to be a dad today.
When Easter hands you eggs, make egg salad

Several years ago, my husband and I invited some dear family friends to spend Easter with our family. We cooked a lovely lamb dinner on Holy Saturday and helped the kids dye eggs for the bunny to hide. We tucked them into bed at a reasonable hour and the adults settled in for some much-needed conversation and camaraderie.

The wine was flowing at our secular style holiday, we played several hands of cards and laughed until tears rolled down our faces. We were having a marvelous time and none of us looked at a clock. Before we knew it, it was practically morning. All four of us had nearly forgotten the Easter Bunny was expected to make an appearance and we rushed in a panic to finish our holiday tasks.

The adults were feeling a more than a little foggy in the light of day after our late-night fun and were sensitive to the handful of very noisy kiddos anxiously waiting to go on an Easter egg hunt. We doled out the Easter baskets and sent the kids off to find an array of blue, pink and yellow eggs in the living room while we huddled around the coffee pot and passed out some aspirin.

After a brief bit, we were all feeling a little more alive and the oldest of our brood handed us a basket full of colorful hard boiled eggs. She declared all the eggs had been found and happily moved onto eating a handful of jelly beans, a few Peeps and a couple cream-filled chocolate eggs with the other kids. I set to peeling the eggs to present on my traditional Easter morning platter. After quartering half a dozen eggs, I nestled some jumbo shrimp, fresh peas, tomatoes and a simple mustard sauce around the eggs. I set the platter out with some flat bread and let my guests make their own open-faced sandwiches. As they started noshing away on my simple brunch buffet, I tidied the kitchen and put 15 leftover eggs into the refrigerator. I knew I would use them to make a lovely egg salad for my family to enjoy later in the week, but something felt off.

The “Easter Bunny” had hidden two dozen eggs for the kids to find and according to my math we were three eggs short. I wasn’t interested in letting the smell of the forgotten eggs lead me to them and we urged the kids to find the remaining eggs, but they came up empty-handed.

Before long all of us were frantically searching for the missing orbs and none of us could find them...until we looked up. There, tucked in the tip top corners of our curtain rods, lay three colored eggs. In the fog of a very fun night, it appeared the Easter Bunny had lost a little egg-hiding perspective. We’ve laughed about our rogue Easter Bunny antics for years.

Easter Egg Evolution Salad

FOR THE PLATTER:
1 dozen hard boiled eggs
- peeled and quartered
2 pounds (10-15 count) cooked shrimp
- peeled and tails left in tact
2 tablespoons minced chives
2 cups frozen peas, thawed
1 tablespoon chopped fresh dill
1 teaspoon olive oil
1 cup halved grape tomatoes
2 pocket-less pita breads
- pan fried and quartered
1/2 cup Dijon mustard
1/4 cup honey

FOR THE SALAD:
Leftovers from the platter
- excluding pita and tomatoes
1-2 tablespoons light mayonnaise
1 teaspoon balsamic vinegar
Toasted hot dog buns
Lettuce leaves (optional)
Salt and pepper

TO SERVE THE PLATTER:
Arrange the eggs on a large platter. Toss the shrimp with the chives and place on the platter with the eggs. Toss the peas with the dill, olive oil and a dash of salt. Arrange the peas on the platter with the tomatoes and pita triangles. Mix the Dijon mustard and honey to make a sauce and serve with the items on the platter. Instruct guests to build open-faced sandwiches for knife and fork eating.

TO SERVE THE SALAD:
Chop any leftover eggs and shrimp and place in a mixing bowl. Add the leftover peas and season with salt and pepper. Add 1 tablespoon of leftover honey-mustard sauce, 1 tablespoon mayonnaise (more to taste) and balsamic vinegar and mix well. Serve the salad on toasted hot dog buns lined with lettuce if desired. Garnish with any leftover tomatoes you may have.
GO CALENDAR

Listings are subject to change. Please call the venue in advance.

Friday, March 27

“The Glass Protege”: Hollywood 1949. In an era of stiffing movie production reins and stars kept under oppressive control, intelligent young British actor Patrick Glass, newly arrived in Hollywood, feels the full force of the studios’ brute career-destroying power when he embarks on a scandalous love affair with his famous male co-star. 7:45 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Theater Wit, 1229 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, $25-$40, 773-975-8150

“Endgame”: This theatricalized, environmental production, designed by Elizabeth Bracken, takes after a kid’s experience. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, The Den Theatre, 1333 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, $20-$35, 773-283-7071

“Balm In Gilead”: This production set in an all night coffee shop on Manhattan's Upper West Side follows the lives of Joe (a cynical drug dealer) and Darlene (a new arrival to the city) as their paths cross over the course of three days. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, The Den Theatre, 1333 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, $20-$35, 773-398-7028

“Macbeth”: See Shakespeare’s epic tale of ambition gone wrong. 8 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday, 8 p.m. Wednesday, The Artistic Home, 1376 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, $28-$32, 312-243-3963

Vodou: Sacred Powers of Haiti: This exhibit explores Vodou as a religion and an expression of the Haitian national experience. 10 a.m. Friday-Wednesday, Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, free, 312-922-9410

Into the Bat Caves of Kenya: Scientists Bruce Patterson and Paul Weibals, accompanied by vlogger Emily Graslie, venture deep into a cave in Kenya’s Mount Suswa to study the varied bats of East Africa. 9 a.m. Friday-Wednesday, Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, free, 312-922-9410

“Beauty and the Beast”: This is the classic musical love story based on Disney's animated film. 7:30 p.m. Friday; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Cadillac Palace Theatre, 151 W. Randolph St., Chicago, $15-$77, 800-775-2000

“The Hammer Trinity: The Excelsior King”: Sixteen actors bring 54 characters to life in a tale spanning three full-length plays. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Chopin Theatre, 1554 W. Division St., Chicago, $15-$30, 773-769-3832

Chicago Styled: Fashioning the Magnificent Mile: This exhibition uses 20 outfits from the museum's costume collection to tell the story of a street, in fashion. The exhibit runs Nov. 15 to Aug. 16 and is free with admission. 9:30 a.m. Friday-Saturday, noon Sunday, Monday-Wednesday, Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark St., Chicago, free, 312-642-4600

“Tomato Queen”: In this musical with book and lyrics by Christine Hodak and music by Scott Lamps, an impatient 11-year-old girl named Camina learns that success takes time and teamwork and isn't worth much if you lose your friends along the way. 8 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, The Blue Theatre, 1609 W. Gregory St., Chicago, free, 312-458-0895

“The Bible Bingo”: Vicki Quade (“Late Nite Catechism”) unleashes a new, interactive comedy centered around an Archdiocesan bingo department on the hunt for revenue. 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Royal George Theatre Center, 1641 N. Halsted St., Chicago, $30, 312-988-9000

“The Decemberists”: 7:30 p.m. Friday, The Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St., Chicago, $35-$100, 312-462-6300

Kind Of Like Spitting: With The City On Film, Lee Corey Oswald, The Island of Misfit Toos and Rapids. 8 p.m. Friday, Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, $10-$12, 773-281-4444

“The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou”: See the Wes Anderson's film about oceanographer Steve Zissou, who, planning to exact revenge on a mythical shark that killed his partner, rallies a crew that includes his estranged wife, a journalist and a man who may or may not be his son. 11 p.m. Friday, 11 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 p.m. Monday, The Logan Theatre, 2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, $75, 773-342-5555

“Creation's Birthday”: This play brings life to the story of the Big-Bang Genesis through the legendary battle between astronaut Edwin Hubble and the scientific icon Albert Einstein. 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport Ave., Chicago, $30, 773-935-6860

Penny and Sparrow: 10 p.m. Friday, Schubas Tavern, 3159 N. Southport Ave., Chicago, $10, 773-525-2508

Alex Grammer: Alex and Sierra with Paradise Pears. 6 p.m. Friday, House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, $22, 312-923-2000

“The Sweeter Option”: Strawdog Theatre's 100th production is this world premiere psychological thriller set in 1971 Chicago, written by John Henry Roberts and directed by Marti Lyons. 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Strawdog Theatre, 3829 N. Broadway, Chicago, $28, 866-811-4111

Trillium: The Chicago-based acoustic quartet entertains with an eclectic repertory ranging from Celtic to bluegrass, from ragtime to swing. Concert includes two complimentary drink tickets. 6:30 p.m. Friday, Richard H. Driehaus Museum, 40 E. Erie St., Chicago, $30-$35, 312-482-8933

Maker & Muse: Women and Early Twentieth Century Art Jewelry: The museum presents the major exhibition comprised of works drawn from the Collection of Richard H. Driehaus and prominent private and public collections throughout the United States. 10 a.m. Friday-Wednesday, Richard H. Driehaus Museum, 40 E. Erie St., Chicago, $12.50-$20, 312-482-8933

“Genius”: This play examines the secrets and alliances of two creative couples from different generations who find their lives changed forever one evening after an electric dinner party. 8 p.m. Friday, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Profiles Theatre at The Alley Stage, 4147 N. Broadway, Chicago, TBA, 773-549-1815

“The Royal Society of Antarctica”: This play follows Dee (Aila Peck) as she returns to her birthplace at the blindingly bright McMurdo Station in Antarctica to work as a janitor and seek answers to her mother's disappearance. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, The Gift Theatre, 4802 N Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, $25-$35, 773-283-7071

“One Came Home”: Lifeline Theatre presents a world premiere adaptation of Amy Timberlake's Edgar Award-winning and Newbery Honor book, “One Came Home.” During the great passenger pigeon migration of 1871, throngs of strangers descend upon Placid, Wis., bringing prosperity in their wake. But as the skies clear, tragedy strikes and Ge-
vocalist is considered one of the fastest pianists in the world. For more information or to buy tickets, visit searscentre.com. 8 p.m. Friday, The Sears Centre, 5333 Prairie Stone Pkwy, Hoffman Estates, $20-$150, 630-328-1222

Audition Workshop for HMS Pinafore: Geoff Button, the director of Lake Forest College's fall production of HMS Pinafore at Gorton, covers the fundamentals of musical theater audition technique in the professional world and in the College's auditions on April 3 for the Gilbert and Sullivan musical. Workshop topics include audition etiquette, selecting material, cutting material, presentation and callbacks. 4 p.m. Friday, Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, free, 847-234-6060

Amelia Earhart: The year is 1937, and Amelia Earhart is preparing to set a new record by becoming the first person to fly around the world at its equator. In recognition of Women's History Month, celebrate the life of this pioneer with historical interpreter Leslie Goddard. 2 p.m. Friday, Ela Area Public Library, 275 Mohawk Trail, Lake Zurich, free, 847-438-3433

“The Theory Everything”: Have popcorn and refreshments while watching the Academy Award-nominated film about astrophysicist Stephen Hawking. 7 p.m. Friday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave, Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

“Outside Mullingar”: Anthony and Rosemary are two introverted misfits. Anthony has spent his entire life on a cattle farm in rural Ireland, oblivious to the longing of his neighbor Rosemary, who hopelessly pines for him as the years slip away. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd, Skokie, $15-$60, 847-673-6300

“Outside Mullingar” is set in rural Ireland, oblivious to the longing of his neighbor Rosemary, who hopelessly pines for him as the years slip away. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd, Skokie, $15-$60, 847-673-6300

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Watson Adventures’ Field of Screams Murder Mystery Scavenger Hunt: Someone has been bungling off Field Museum staffers involved in acquiring a sacred Egyptian relic. Crack a hieroglyphic code and uncover the museum’s secrets to stop the killings. 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, $33 (includes museum admission), 877-946-4868

“Heat Wave”: This play is set in Chicago, in the summer of 1995, and an intense heat wave has gripped the city with temperatures soaring above 100 degrees. By the time it's all over 739 people will have died, mostly the poor, elderly or minorities with nowhere to seek shelter. As the morgues overflow, the city's emergency response team is called into question. 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Winnetka Chapel, 630 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka, $20 & $10 for students and industry, 847-331-3960

Saturday, March 28

The Magician and his Shadow: This magic show is about more than just magic. 1 p.m. Saturday, Theater Wit, 1229 W. Belmont Ave, Chicago, $14.50 for children, $17.50 for adults, 773-975-8150

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“The Past Is Never Finished”: This “mariachi opera” is set in Morelos, Mex., in 1910. Here, the son of a wealthy landowner returns to his parents' home to find his future only to fall deeply in love with a humble servant girl. As forbidden personal passions burn, so too do political ambitions. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Civic Opera House, 20 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago, $29-$99, 312-332-2244

Salad Days: A Decade of Punk In Turn to Go Calendar, Next Page
**GO CALENDAR**

*Go Calendar, from Previous Page*

**Washington, D.C.:** This is a documentary film that examines the early DIY punk scene in the nation's capital. 8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Vic Theatre/Brew & View, 3145 N. Sheffield Ave., Chicago, $7, 773-929-6713

**Super Diamond: The Neil Diamond Tribute:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday, House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, $25, 773-404-9494

**Saturday, March 29**

**Environmental Encroachment:**
11:30 a.m. Sunday, Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, $6

**Story and song with Kelly Bosworth and Beth Hornor:** Join singer-songwriters Kelly Bosworth of Portland, Oregon, and special guest storyteller Beth Hornor for an evening of story and song. 7 p.m. Sunday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

**Easter Bunny & Egg Hunt at Wolff's Flea Market:** Egg Hunt and visit with the Easter Bunny at Wolff's Flea Market. Crafts, face painting and balloons with Ashe 11-11:30 a.m.; Egg hunt for all kids 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Magician Bob James 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Visit with the Easter Bunny. In between activities, shop 300 independent sellers. Lunch available for purchase. Market hours 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit the website for complete schedule. 8 a.m. Sunday, Wolff's Flea Market, 1775 N. Rand Rd., Palatine, free, 847-524-9590

**Imogen Cooper plays Beethoven:** Renowned British pianist Imogen Cooper joins Jane Glover and the orchestra for a Classical-era program. 7:30 p.m. Sunday-Monday, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, $38-$75, 847-967-4800

**Sunday, March 30**

**Environmental Encroachment:**
11:30 a.m. Sunday, Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, $6

**Faces of Humanity Film Series:**
**“Defiance”**: The feature based on the true story of the Bielski brothers whose partisan unit shielded Jewish families and fought the Nazis is followed by a post-screening discussion with Laurie Hasten, whose grandmother was saved by the Bielskis. 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4800

**Monday, March 30**

**School Day Off Adventures: Arlington Heights Historical Museum** wants you to spend your school days off learning about the people who make the area what it's become. On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, dye your own paper and make a “Let's Change the World” mural. 9:15 a.m. Monday, Arlington Heights Historical Museum, 110 W. Fremont St., Arlington Heights, $15, 847-255-1225

**Rhine:** With Aurora L'Orealis. 8 p.m. Monday, Schubas Tavern, 3159 N. Southport Ave., Chicago, free, 773-525-2508

**The Mixer at The Playground Theater:** This workshop includes top performers and coaches followed by coaches teaching a simple form and everyone working in a long-form show. BYOB. 10

**Turn to Go Calendar, Next Page**
Tuesday, March 31

“Cinderella”: Cinderella would love more than anything to attend the royal ball. With an evil stepmother and two wicked stepsisters, she is instead ordered around getting them ready for the big event. She is not allowed to go, but a surprise visit from her fairy godmother may mean all Cinderella’s dreams can come true. See this favorite story with fun music-filled twists. 9:45 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, 111 W. Campbell St., Arlington Heights, Adults $14, Children 12 and under $12, 847-577-5982

Black Bear/Brown Bear: With Luxdeluxe and Mirror Coat. 8 p.m. Tuesday, Schubas Tavern, 3159 N. Southport Ave., Chicago, free, 773-572-2508

Traditional Irish Music Night: 8 p.m. Tuesday, Chief O’Neill’s Pub, 3471 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, Free, 773-473-5263

Festival de la Francophonie 2015: Solre Roumanle: Traditional Romanian music and dance takes place before the film screening of “Child’s Pose,” a 2013 drama by director Calin Peter Netzerand. A drama of social commentary and psychological realism, this caustic look into the corrupt heart of the Eastern European bourgeoisie twists into an ambiguous study of obsessive motherly love. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Alliance Francaise de Chicago Down-town Location, 54 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, free, 312-337-1070

“The Bird Feeder Doesn’t Know”: In this play, Ingrid and Herman are retirees living independently in their longtime family home somewhere in the heart of America. Like any parents with adult children, they long for more visits from their son, the physically disabled Everett, who lives in the big city several hours away. But with Herman’s physical abilities declining as a normal part of aging, Everett’s help at home is needed now more than ever. 8 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Raven Theatre, 6157 N. Clark St., Chicago, $15-$22, 773-338-2177

Tuesday New Movie Night: Watch a newly-released flick at the library. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Deerfield Public Library, 920 Waukegan Rd., Deerfield, free, 847-945-3311

Irish music session: Enjoy Irish music every Tuesday night. 7 p.m. Tuesday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

“The Fault In Our Stars”: Josh Boone’s drama follows two teens who meet and fall in love at a cancer support group. 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Mount Prospect Public Library, 10 S. Emerson St, Mt. Prospect, free, 847-253-5675

Wednesday, April 1

H20: With The Mons. 8 p.m. Wednesday, Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave., Chicago, $20, 773-278-6600

Crying: With Eskimeaux. 8 p.m. Wednesday, Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave., Chicago, $12-$14, 773-278-6600

Delilcats Steve: 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, $10-$12, 773-281-4444

Amen Dunes: With Weyesblood and Xander Duell. 9 p.m. Wednesday, Schubas Tavern, 3159 N. Southport Ave., Chicago, $12-$14, 773-572-2508

VIVID 2015: CCPA Annual Showcase: Emanuele Andrizzi conducts Roosevelt University’s Chicago College of Performing Arts (CCPA) Symphony Orchestra. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E. Congress Parkway, Chicago, free

“Finding Nemo”: The Interactive Family Movie Experience: Come in costume and be a part of the movie. We provide props, snacks, and fun… you bring a blanket and enthusiasm. Special treats provided by Whole Foods Market Northbrook. Registration required. 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Rd., Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Have an event to submit? Go to chicagotribune/calendar.
Now playing

"Cinderella" ★★★
PG, 1:45, family
Refreshingly free of all snark, the satisfying new live-action "Cinderella" from the princess manufacturing company known as Disney is a sincere, openhearted rendering of the familiar fairy tale. — Michael Phillips

"Run All Night" ★★½
R, 1:54, action
In a convention-bound action movie such as "Run All Night," some nicely rumpled actors (beginning with Liam Neeson, our supreme late-winter action star) can go a long way toward redeeming the cliches, the primary cliche being a flawed protagonist who seeks redemption for his sins. The film co-stars Ed Harris and also Vincent as an New York police detective trying to get Neeson's character, a guilt-stricken, mobbed-up hit man, to confess to his crimes before the Harris character eliminates him. "Run All Night" also makes room for a Nick Nolte cameo. Directed, frantically, by Jaume Collet-Serra and written by Brad Ingelsby, "Run All Night" promises a sprint punctuated by a lot of gunfire, bleeding and bodies. Mission accomplished. — M.P

"Kingsman: The Secret Service" ★½
R, 2:09, action
Colin Firth portrays one of the crack gentlemen-spies working for a supersecret agency out to save the world from a crackpot billionaire philanthropist (Samuel L. Jackson). As Firth's colleagues, Michael Caine and Mark Strong offer unblinking gazes par excellence. And Welsh newcomer Taron Egerton is engaging as "Eggsy," recruited by Firth's Harry Hart to join the Kingsman cadre. Based on the 2012 graphic novel "The Secret Service" by Mark Millar and Dave Gibbons, director Matthew Vaughn's picture will appeal to anyone who enjoyed Vaughn's earlier "Kick-Ass." I didn't. I find the jocularity of Vaughn's gamer-style violence a drag. — M.P

"Focus" ★★
R, 1:45, action
In "Focus," Will Smith plays gentleman thief Nicky Spurgeon, who runs a 30-person team of pickpockets and scam artists. Margot Robbie is the fatale-in-training Jess Barrett, looking for a mentor and a leg up in the con game. Some will take "Focus" in the intended spirit, that of a casual, eye-candy throwback to older Hollywood. Many found the same creative team's "Crazy, Stupid, Love." a disarming romantic comedy (me, less so), and clearly the team has a gift for zigzag plotting. But the setup of "Focus" feels hasty and insufficient. Even in a lark about con artists working through their trust issues, we need more. — M.P

"Chappie" zero stars
R, 2:02, sci-fi
We're in Johannesburg, South Africa, in the near future. Law-enforcement droids have improved crime statistics. The police force orders up another batch of robots from the weapons firm. The firm's lead designer (Dev Patel) cracks the code for a new iteration of droid that is human in its techno-make-up. "Mad Max" criminals kidnap Patel's character in hopes of enlisting his inventions in a multimillion dollar heist. The sweet, naive droid the punks nickname Chappie becomes a pawn in their miserable game. This is one of those misjudgments that could only have come from a talented filmmaker with an idea, ripped off from "A.I." and a million other movies, seen through to the bitter end. — M.P

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Drop the top, raise the fun

America's love for convertibles grows with new models and updates

BY CASEY WILLIAMS | Special to Tribune Newspapers

Convertibles account for about 1 percent of the new car market, but drop-tops occupy a far greater place in our hearts. Automakers know this, which is why a handful of new models will tug at our tops and add to the nearly two dozen existing models on sale in 2015. The new crop, and updated favorites, will open up the possibilities for a so-called-off segment.

Convertibles are emotional purchases, as varied as their owners. According to Buick, sales are split 60 percent male and 40 percent female. Drivers have higher incomes — primarily because luxury marques dominate.

"For most of these consumers, this is an additional vehicle in the garage — a reward for hard work," said Rob Peterson, Buick marketing manager. "They are looking for a fun vehicle — something that is spirited and gives them that excitement of an open-air vehicle."

This passion takes many forms: Inexpensive or expensive, two or four seats, hardtop or soft-top, high speed or off-road. Which you choose doesn't matter if it is a sports car or not. With the top off, it's always going to be fun.

Newbies

In 1976, Cadillac billed the Eldorado as the last American convertible. It was, until Chrysler Chairman Lee Iacocca ordered the tops off LeBarons, tapping into Americans' love for convertibles. While Fiat Chrysler sells the topless Jeep Wrangler, Fiat 500 and Alfa 4C, it no longer offers a midsize convertible — a descendant of the LeBaron/Sebring.

Buick is taking up that space by rolling out the four-seat Cascada. "There is a void in the premium touring convertible space today," Peterson said. "There are very expensive luxury convertibles as well as sport car convertibles. But there are very few that provide the ride quality, features, style and value like Cascada."

Buick drops it in a hot 17 seconds at speeds up to 31 mph while sporting 20-inch wheels and a 200 horsepower turbo-four engine. Safety bars deploy during rollovers. Expect prices starting around $35,000.

As Cascada exploits a market void, fans embrace the redesigned 2016 Mazda MX-5 Miata and 2015 Alfa Romeo 4C Spider.

"The MX-5’s focus has always been on driver and passenger enjoyment," said Rod McLaughlin, Mazda MX-5 product line manager. "The MX-5 reinvigorated the roadster segment when it debuted at the 1989 Chicago Auto Show."

The seider Miata is enlivened with an aluminum-intensive body and 155 horsepower four-cylinder engine. Sales will start in summer with prices around $25,000.

Alfa Romeo's 4C Spider employs a carbon fiber chassis and midmounted engine to optimize performance. "Passion, racing tradition, technology and exotic Italian design are some of the attributes most fondly expressed by enthusiasts in North America," said Richard Cox, director of Alfa Romeo Brand North America. "The 4C Spider plays to these strengths."

Buick is also updating the 6-Series convertible. Revised styling with LED headlamps accompanies a choice of twin-turbo V-8 or turbo V-6 engines. Or enjoy the M6's 560 horsepower twin-turbo V-8.

The contenders

Whatever your price point, there are fun convertibles. Least expensive are the Euro-chic Smart ForTwo ($17,930) and Fiat 500 ($20,145). The Mini Cooper ($25,700), updated BMW 2-Series ($33,920) and Audi A3 ($35,600) add space and content. German automakers dominate premium segments. If you want four seats, check out the Mercedes-Benz E-Class ($61,350) or BMW 4-Series ($48,750). Compact roadsters are represented by the stylish Audi TT ($42,900), BMW Z4 ($49,950) and Mercedes SLK ($43,950) — the latter two with retractable hardtops.

Celebrating 60 years since the race that launched the car, Mercedes will offer its benchmark SL550 "Mille Miglia 417," highlighted by night black paint and red trim. Prices to be determined. Or roll large in a Rolls-Royce Phantom Drophead Coupe. It costs at least $474,600, more for the exclusive Nighthawk edition. The Bentley GTC ($195,200) is a swell alternative.

Camaro, Corvette and Mustang bat for America.

Fifty years after the original, Mustang ($29,300) flaunts muscular style and independent rear suspension. Engines include a 310 horsepower EcoBoost four-cylinder, V-6 and 435 horsepower V-8. Camaro ($32,200) matches Mustang, but unbottles the evil ZL1's 580 horsepower supercharged V-8. Get a base 455 horsepower Corvette ($55,995) or the divine 650 horsepower Z06 ($79,995).

Among all these, who could not cuddle a VW Beetle ($25,595)?

The same might not be said about the Range Rover Evoque convertible; the odd luxury compact crossover drop-top goes to market in 2016.

The Miata effect

A quarter-century ago, Miata rekindled our love affair with convertibles. Now, the fourth-generation 2016 is ready to light up summer roads.

"Customers want to feel like they're not just buying a car; they're buying an experience," McLaughlin said of the propensity for MX-5 owners to hit the track. "They're buying something that makes them feel like a superhero every time they press the starter button."

A similar sense of power could be said for all convertibles. "Driving with the top down really lets me forget my troubles and get away from it all," Weber said. "It's really cathartic and the perfect way to end the week and clear my head."

transportation@tribpub.com
Niles North grad adjusts to reserve role at Iowa State

BY MATTHEW PARAS
Pioneer Press

Niles North boys basketball coach Glenn Olson couldn't help but text Abdel Nader after witnessing his former player put up 13 points against Kansas in Iowa State's 70-66 Big 12 tournament championship win.

“We text throughout the season, and we had a nice conversation [after the Kansas win],” Olson said. “We are so proud of him. It's exciting to see the level he's playing at.”

Nader, a 6-foot-6 forward for the Cyclones and a native of Skokie, played a key role for the Cyclones in 25 minutes against the Jayhawks. The redshirt junior was aggressive getting to the rim and was an important factor off the bench.

In its next game, third-seeded Iowa State was upset by 14th-seeded Alabama-Birmingham 60-59 in the second round of the NCAA Tournament. Nader scored six points and grabbed three rebounds.

It hasn't been an easy journey for Nader. After transferring from Northern Illinois in 2013, the 21-year-old had to sit out a year because of transfer rules.

During his first season playing for the Cyclones, Nader's minutes were inconsistent. But by the end of the year, Nader was finally fitting into his role.

“It's been a long process, but it's paid off so far,” Nader said. “It's great to be part of a successful team. Playing with talented guys every day are just making me a better player.”

Under coach Fred Hoiberg, the Cyclones have made the NCAA Tournament four years in a row, including a trip to the Sweet 16 last year.

Nader said it was tough watching without playing but the taste of his teammates' success got him even more excited to return. Nader, who started his high school career at Maine East before transferring to Niles North, spent his year off recovering more of a well-rounded player.

“I've really gotten a lot better since I've come to Iowa State,” Nader said. “I don't know if I can just specify one part.”

For Iowa State, it was Nader's athleticism that caught the eye of assistant Matt Abdelmassih.

“Coach [Hoiberg] has done a tremendous job with dynamic offensive players,” Abdelmassih said. “Being able to do multiple things and with a varied skill set, he fits the way we play. Our offense has been built to average 80 points per game, and that's the first thing that popped out — the ability to make shots and the ability to also have the athleticism to go by guys.

“It definitely taught me to have more respect for the game,” Nader said. “It was an absolute no-brainer the first time I sat down to watch him on film.”

Nader said the decision to transfer from Northern Illinois came down to the Huskies' lack of success and his general unhappiness while there. The Cyclones' recent success and style of play made them an easy decision for Nader.

But there was an off-the-court incident that marred Nader's first year with Iowa State. In April 2014, Nader was arrested for drunken driving. He later served a three-game suspension.

“I just hope everything works out for the best,” Nader said. “I've learned that there are a lot of highs and lows in a basketball season. I just have to stay focused on the games and be a good teammate.”

Matthew Paras is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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ND grad Chievous is Hampton’s ‘heart and soul’

Former Dons standout registers double-double against Kentucky in NCAA Tournament

BY JONAH L. ROSENBLUM
Pioneer Press

DAYTON, Ohio — The first half of the first game of the 2015 NCAA Tournament left fans and the Internet talking about one name in particular: Quinton Chievous.

The former high school basketball standout at Notre Dame led off the nationally televised halftime show on March 17, and his first half double-double sparked Hampton’s First Four upset of Kentucky.

“He’s just an amazing thing, especially when everyone’s counting you out,” Chievous said. “I don’t think anyone in the country had us winning. We’re all just so thrilled.

Not much was expected of the 6-foot-6 Chievous and his teammates in their next game either. Hampton (17-18) opened as a 32-point underdog against overall No. 1 seed Kentucky and lost to the undefeated Wildcats 79-56 on March 19.

Chievous finished with 22 points and 10 rebounds — both team highs in their next game either. Hampton opened as a 32-point underdog against overall No. 1 seed Kentucky and lost to the undefeated Wildcats 79-56 on March 19.

Hampton’s Quinton Chievous puts up a shot during the March 19 game against Kentucky in the second round of the NCAA men’s basketball tournament at the KFC YUM! Center in Louisville, Kentucky.

A averaging a double-double — and being 1988 NBA first-round draft pick Derrick Chievous’ son — created plenty of interest, and he committed to Tennessee.

Chievous brought experience. His Volunteers began last year’s Sweet Sixteen run with a victory in Dayton.

He flashed athleticism with a soaring first-half dunk. He demonstrated power with a dunk over 6-9 Zane Waterman. Most importantly, he wanted the ball — on offense and on the boards. Over and over, he held his hands out on the free-throw line, cajoling his teammates to give him the ball.

“He just showed he wanted it more,” Manhattan senior forward Emmy Andujar said. “I’m just enjoying the moment,” Chievous said.

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Pryor returns from injuries to help Robert Morris in NCAA tourney

BY JONAH L. ROSENBLUM
Pioneer Press

DAYTON, Ohio — The brace lingers on his right knee.
The hesitation occasionally returns.
Increasingly, however, after missing two years due to injury, Evanston's Rodney Pryor is flashing the star power he showed while in high school at Notre Dame.

Never more so than on March 18 when Pryor poured in 20 points to help Robert Morris to an 81-77 First Four victory over North Florida in the NCAA men's basketball tournament.
The next stage was even bigger.

Robert Morris played North Florida before a half-full University of Dayton Arena as patrons were eagerly awaiting Dayton's appearance in the second game of the doubleheader.

That wasn't a problem Friday night — Duke never gets the undercard.
Especially not when the Blue Devils are the South's top seed. Especially not when Jahii C. Okafor is poised to follow Kyrie Irving and Jabari Parker as the next big thing out of Duke. Especially not in Charlotte, North Carolina, just down Interstate 85 from Durham.

Pryor tallied team highs in both points (23) and rebounds (five), but it wasn't enough as Duke beat 16th-seeded Robert Morris 85-56.

Perhaps Pryor was meant for the big stage.

"I always thought Rodney was going to be a special player," Dons coach Tom Les said.

When Pryor, after missing his freshman season at Cloud County (Kansas) Community College with a broken left foot, caught the Colonials' eye at The All-American JUCO Showcase, they were far from the only ones looking.

"I got a lot of notoriety there," Pryor said. "I received a lot of interest from high majors, but then when I tore my ACL first day of practice in JUCO, they all left, and the mid-majors started to pour in."

Robert Morris was one of those mid-majors.

"In between injuries, we got to see him and we knew what his talent was and we knew how capable he was," Robert Morris coach Andrew Toole said. "Then, as you get to know him as a person and as a kid, we got a really strong sense that regardless of what adversity he faced, he was going to be able to come back."

After watching Pryor work out this past summer, Les agreed.

"I still saw much of the same athleticism that I saw when he was playing for us in high school," Les said. "It looked to me like he was back all the way, but again, until you do it in a game-like situation, it's never a guarantee."

Pryor scored at least nine points in nine of the Colonials' first 11 games. However, he was limited to seven points and a rebound in a Feb. 12 loss to LIU Brooklyn that dropped Robert Morris to 12-13.

"I knew I wasn't playing well," Pryor said. "I wasn't shooting the ball well. I wasn't as aggressive as I needed to be. I got into a low area. I told myself this new month is going to be a new me."

Two days later, he had 15 points and nine rebounds in a win over Central Connecticut. Pryor entered Central Connecticut State at 13.7 points per game. He averaged 20.4 after that.

On Feb. 21, Pryor made four 3-pointers against Bryant as the Colonials launched a seven-game win streak that carried them through the Northeast Conference Tournament and the First Four. Starting with the Central Connecticut State game, Pryor tallied multiple 3-pointers in each of the final 10 games and shot 49.2 percent from behind the arc during that time.

"He's played his best basketball here in the last month and a half," Toole said.

All of that was on display at UD Arena.

Seven minutes in, two defenders came out to press as Pryor received a handoff. He knifed to the hoop without hesitation for a layup.

Trailing by eight a minute before halftime, Pryor drove baseline, fearlessly absorbing contact as he finished a layup.

His 3-pointer with 8:53 remaining sparked an 11-0 run that brought the Colonials from seven down to four up.

"It's a play he's made a million times," Toole said. "He knocked it down and it kind of put everybody at ease. We started to defend hard and we started to execute offense. It was really a big turning point in the game."

Pryor's comeback from injury is far from over.

"It's still a work in progress," Pryor said. "When there are a lot of feet in the area, like on offensive rebounds and situations like that, I still have a lot of that in the back of my mind, and it prevents me from being as aggressive as I want to on the floor."

"It's his prognosis is looking better than ever."

"It's just been a blessing," Pryor said. "All I can give thanks to is the man above."
Six core players help coach put Notre Dame hockey ‘on the map’

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

BENSENVILLE — The high school and club hockey seasons completely overlap in Illinois, providing players and their families with options. Three years ago, most of the hockey players at Notre Dame chose not to play for the school’s team when a coaching change led to Bart Czachor taking over as the program’s head coach.

Among the players who elected to play for the Dons in 2012-13, a core group of six sophomores — forwards Brendan Golden, Ben Lopez, Nic Yzaguirre, and defensemen Mike Kavanagh, Brandon Maize and Mike Sabatino — emerged. Together with Czachor, they worked to rebuild Notre Dame’s program.

“After the coaching change, they came in and they told us, ‘It’s just going to be something that’s going to take some time,’” said Golden, now a senior. “You’ve got to stick with it. You’re going to take your blows. You’re going to play some teams that are definitely better than you. You’re going to have some tough competition. But, in the end, it’s only going to help us.”

The Dons went 11-42-1 in 2012-13. They didn’t make the Catholic League playoffs in 2013, and there was a sizable gulf between them and the state’s best teams.

But there was always belief. Belief in the coaches’ system and what they were teaching, according to Yzaguirre. Belief that the team, with age and experience, would become more and more competitive. Most importantly, there was a belief among the group that the hardships and struggles as sophomores and juniors would lead to Notre Dame eventually beating some of Illinois’ best teams.

Building the program was something the coaches and that group of six talked about “all the time,” Yzaguirre said. “It was one of the things we really wanted to do. We knew that eventually we’d get better.”

They did. The Dons went 24-28-2 a year ago and were even more competitive this season. Notre Dame finished with a 41-16-1 record this season, and over the last month the Dons showed everybody just how far they’ve come.

It started with a 2-0 upset of third-seeded Providence in the second round of the AHAI Blackhawk Cup on March 2. Notre Dame, the 14th seed, followed that up on March 10 with a 4-3 win over sixth-seeded St. Rita in the state quarterfinals.

“We would have never done that before,” Czachor said of the St. Rita victory. “I was laughing [recently]. I said, ‘If we would have played them in the state tournament in our first year, we would have lost 20-0. That’s how different it is.”

Notre Dame then rocketed out to a 2-0 lead against Glenbrook North in the state semifinals on March 16. The Dons led 2-1 to start the third period, but the Spartans — who beat Benet to win the state championship on Sunday — scored three straight goals in the third period and held on to win 4-3.

Regardless of how future Notre Dame teams perform, this year’s group of six seniors — Golden, Lopez, Yzaguirre, Kavanagh, Maize and Sabatino — can take pride in the fact that their decision to stick with Notre Dame hockey over the last three years made a difference.

“They’re part of the program, moving forward,” Czachor said. “They’ll always be a part of it. They put us on the map, and now let’s see how far we can go.”

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Niles West's headliners this spring figure to be senior Christine Mujica in the 1,600-meter run and junior Jazmine Rafanan in the 300 hurdles. They qualified for the Class 3A state meet in their respective events last spring.

Mujica, also a two-time state qualifier in cross country, plans to run at DePaul in the fall. She had a strong winter, which included a win in the 800 at the always-competitive Proviso West Invite.

Rafanan has placed high in several indoor meets and has her sights on punching a ticket downstate this spring in both hurdle events.

Coach Mark Medland also is happy to welcome junior Nicole Camburn from the school's softball program. She projects as a top-flight distance runner. Also possessing good potential is junior Aiko Sekino in the shot put.

Ridgewood

Three sprinters figure to spearhead the Rebels' fortunes this spring. Senior Teresa Nuccio and juniors Georgia Velkov and Julie Guler will all compete individually and comprise three-fourths of Ridgewood's two sprint relays.

Nuccio also has designs on a trip downstate in the high jump. She reached her personal record of 4 feet, 8 inches at all three meets during the indoor season.

Niles North

Leading the way for the Vikings will be senior Fiona Kanam, who was eighth (42-3) in the shot put at the Class 3A state meet as a junior. She's already thrown 45-6 indoors this winter and is looking to move up in the final standings.

Coach Andy Swedberg also hopes to put together strong 4x100 and 4x200 relay teams, with hopes of being fast enough to challenge school records in both races.

Junior jumper Alyssa Moy was an all-conference performer in 2014 and Swedberg thinks the school record in the triple jump is attainable.

Notes

Maine South finished sixth at the Class 3A Niles West Sectional last season with 38 points while Maine East took ninth (20).
BOYS TRACK AND FIELD
SEASON PREVIEW

BY STEVE REAVEN
Pioneer Press

Maine South has its work cut out to replace graduated sprinter John Hader, now competing for Eastern Illinois, and distance runner Jack Carpenter, who is now running at Marquette. Despite those holes, coach Scott Sutschek said he likes the Hawks' program-wide depth.

The optimism starts with returning state-meet qualifiers Henry Mierzwa (1,600-meter run) and Paul D'Ambrosio (3,200). Both are seniors and Sutschek thinks they can advance to this year's finals. There's also excitement about two throwers, senior John Barg and sophomore Kevin Jarvis, who put the shot 53 feet indoors to surpass the outdoor state qualifying mark.

Niles West

The Wolves lost many seniors from last year's squad, according to coach Chris Vivone, but some talented athletes return. Senior Jackson Denley (400) will try to become the state qualifier and captains Jeff Willer and Brandon Costantino will lead the sprinting corps.

The two other captains are hurdler Mike Malina and distance runner Theo Beck. Vivone said he likes the potential of Frankie Santa and Niko Dominguez in the middle distances, while he hopes to see junior triple jumper J.C. Wabonnor take a big step forward.

The Wolves also have a strong sophomore class that could add depth by the end of the spring.

Niles North

Whatever success comes the Vikings' way this spring will be almost entirely fueled by a strong junior class. Coach Paul Swanson will mold together sprint relays from a group that includes Craig Dawkins, Matthew Taylor, newcomer Jaepel Ortiz, who moved to the area from North Carolina, and Barrington Wade, a running back who has several Division I football offers.

Also in the junior class is long jumper Romario Gayle, who jumped 20 feet, 3.25 inches at the Central Suburban North indoor meet on Friday, and hurdlers Nelson Mafany and Leandro Oaing. North's lone returning state qualifier is senior triple jumper Adrain Coardos.

Ridgewood

The Rebels had a sizable contingent at last year's Class 2A state meet, and all but one of the eight state qualifiers is returning this spring. Coach Tony Guarinetti looks to build on what he called a "learning experience" at the state meet. The Rebels have a strong sprint corps led by senior Ryan Cabot and juniors Erick Mangal and Giuliano Vommaro.

The sprint trio helps comprise both the 4x100 and 4x200 relays, both of which qualified for state in 2014. Cabot again hopes to qualify in the 100, while Mangal could compete in both the sprints or the 400. The Rebels' strong junior class includes hurdler Adam Bonifaciuk, the squad's top hurdler and the fourth leg on both sprint relays.

Northridge

The defending Independent School League champions have a star attraction in high jumper Forest Moses. The senior enters the outdoor season fresh off winning the USA Track and Field National Youth Indoor championship in Maryland two weeks ago with a personal best leap of 6-4.75. He finished 10th at the Class 1A state meet in the high jump a year ago. Moses has his eyes on qualifying for state in both hurdles events and the triple jump this year, as well as the high jump, according to coach Mike Egle.

Egle said he also likes the potential of Justin Evans, who could qualify for the state meet in both throwing events, and triple jumper Joe Hinderer, who just missed the state qualifying mark in 2014.

The Knights also have up-and-coming sophomore distance runners in Peter Conroy and Patrick Moore. Conroy was a Class 1A state cross country qualifier in the fall and has shifted his attention to track after previously playing baseball.

Maine East

Maine East may lack depth, but the Blue Demons have several frontline performers who figure to make noise this spring. Two shot putters, Nick Pavlovic and George Corey, stand out. They finished first and second, respectively, at the CSL North indoor meet on Friday. They've both thrown over 50 feet indoors.

Senior Jasin Murati is likely to be the team's top scorer. Among the jumping events he will focus on the triple jump and he specializes in the hurdles. Murati also has the speed to run in the sprints.

Also warranting attention will be junior Torrain Haughton, who has taken youth indoor champion "at the state meet. The Dons will lean on Jim Finneke (sprints), Joe Hilger (hurdles) and Kevin Cooney (throws). Some juniors that are worth watching include Matt Contreras (distance), Jim Topping (sprints) and Jack Wernet (discus).

Steve Reaven is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
SHOW OF STRENGTH

Pioneer Press takes a look at the area’s track and field teams ahead of the upcoming outdoor season.
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