Not your average hospital
New animal clinic for exotic pets opens up in Skokie. Page 6

At a recent open house for the Chicago Exotics Animal Hospital, Sara Haddon of Steger hugs her adopted three-toed turtle.

Negotiations to start
Niles Village Board votes to begin talks with Evanston about water. Page 6

Soccer at The Ohio State
Niles West grad Greg Solawa prepares for college debut. Page 52
David Keller, deputy police chief

Park Ridge Deputy Police Chief David Keller is retiring July 7 after 29 years with the department.

A Skokie native, Keller has called Park Ridge home for the last 18 years.

"It's not just a job for me. The whole town has been kind of my life," he says. "I'm part of the community.

Cmdr. Duane Mellema will serve as acting deputy chief of police following Keller's departure.

Keller recently answered a few questions for Pioneer Press.

Q: Are you retiring or are you going on to a new job?
A: I am retiring from the police department and going to a new job at O'Hare Airport. I'm going to be working with their rail system, the people mover that takes people from terminal to terminal. I will be supervisor in training and development.

Q: How did you come to join the Park Ridge Police Department?
A: I grew up in Skokie and I didn't know much about Park Ridge, but it happened to be a community that was testing for police officers. I tested with Park Ridge, Skokie, Wheeling and Northbrook, and Park Ridge happened to call me.

Q: Do you ever watch scripted police shows on TV and point out all the inaccuracies?
A: I kind of laugh at some of them. I laugh at how all these beautiful people can solve all these crimes in 25 minutes, excluding commercials.

Q: What are some of your interests outside of work?
A: I love to play golf. I like to get to the gym almost every day. I like to spend time with my wife and my kids. And have a nice cigar.

Q: What will you miss most about working for the Park Ridge Police Department?
A: I will miss the relationships with the guys and girls I work with. That's going to be the big thing.

—Jennifer Johnson, Pioneer Press

Shout Out is a weekly feature where we get to know and introduce our readers to their fellow community members and local visitors through our suburb Chicago.

Dehumidifiers & Air Conditioners

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Niles board voted to begin Evanston water negotiations

BY LEE V. GAINESE PIONEER PRESS

As part of ongoing efforts to find a cheaper source of water, the Niles Village Board voted unanimously June 23 to direct staff to officially begin negotiating and drafting a long-term agreement to purchase water from Evanston.

The Arlington Heights-based consultant, WARB, LLC, which recommended last month that the village pursue purchasing water from Evanston, will also assist with the negotiations, in addition to the Vernon Hills-based engineering firm, Gewalt Hamilton Associates, and the law firm, Holland and Knight, LLP.

The city of Chicago, the village's current source of water, has imposed steep rate increases over the past several years. Village Manager Steve Vinezeano said, in an interview following the meeting, that Niles has been searching for an alternative to Chicago water since before he was hired to serve in his current role 2 1/2 years ago.

The board also voted unanimously on June 23 to approve a $33,000 contract with Gewalt Hamilton and Associates for consulting work related to transitioning to a new water source. The village has teamed up with Morton Grove on the project, and the village's current source of water. The village would begin to pursue the possibility of purchasing water from Evanston without Park Ridge's involvement.

Vinezeano said after the meeting that Park Ridge had not yet said yes to the project. He added that Morton Grove and the village would begin to pursue the possibility of purchasing water from Evanston without Park Ridge's involvement.

The report presented to village officials by Balling last month estimated that Niles would save $139 million on water costs over a 40-year period with Morton Grove as a participant in the project. Vinezeano previously reported. If Park Ridge were to join as well, the village is expected to save $164 million over that same period, the report stated. Niles' share of the project costs if only Morton Grove is involved is estimated to total $56 million. With Park Ridge participating, the village could expect to pay $43 million, according to the report. Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo said during a board meeting June 23 that a project to purchase water from Evanston for the village would be costly, but ultimately would save Niles a substantial amount of money in the long term.

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The next steps in the process if negotiations with Evanston are successful, Vinezeano said, include conducting a study to determine where the new water infrastructure should be located and the creation of a water commission.

If the village reaches the engineering and design phase for the infrastructure needed to supply Niles with Evanston water, Vinezeano said that "that will probably be a point of no return."

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Niles Village Board approves roof and road repair plans

BY LEE V. GAINESE PIONEER PRESS

At its most recent meeting, the Niles Village Board voted unanimously to spend roughly $2.7 million on street resurfacing and roof repair projects planned for this year.

Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo announced toward the end of the meeting that the village had just spent a substantial amount of money, but that it was necessary to fix the community's infrastructure.

"In the end, we'll save money for the taxpayers by spending this money," Przybylo said.

The largest of the two expenditures totaled approximately $2.2 million for this year's street resurfacing program. The contract was awarded to the lowest bidder on the project, Arrow Road Construction Company. The bid came in under budget by about $250,000, according to village documents.

Arrow Road Construction Company is also currently working on resurfacing projects for major streets, including Milwaukee Avenue and Golf Road, under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Department of Transportation, Niles' Director of Public Services Mary Anderson said in an interview.

The roads included in the village's street resurfacing project are located in the middle to western portion of the village. Anderson said.

Madison Drive, Normal Avenue, Bruce Drive, Western Avenue and Lincoln Avenue are just five of the 14 roads to be resurfaced, according to village documents.

Anderson said she expects work on the project to begin in late July or early August, and to finish up by the end of the current construction season.

Residents who live on the streets planned for resurfacing should expect some impact on their day-to-day routines as a result of construction work, Anderson said.

"There will be disruption, there is no question about it, but hopefully for short times," she said.

The Village Board also approved a nearly $500,000 contract with CIC Corporation for roof repairs at several Niles facilities. Like the road resurfacing program, this bid also came in under budget by about $86,000, according to village documents.

The scope of the project includes roof repairs at the Civic Center Drive building that houses the fitness center, family services and senior center, the Niles Historical Museum on Milwaukee Avenue, a building used to house multiple village vehicles on Touhy Avenue and minor repairs at both fire station locations, according to village documents.

Anderson said the work planned for this year is phase three of a six-part roof repair project. This phase is being paid for out of the village's general fund, fitness center fund and tax increment financing funds, she said.

A timeline for the project has not been finalized, but the work should be completed by the end of April, Anderson said.

She said roof repairs don't generally require buildings to shut down while construction work is underway, and as a result, this project won't create much disruption to village activities.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Niles releases performance report for village services

Mayor believes cost savings could come from tracking

**BY LEE V. GAINES**
Pioneer Press

Beginning in the spring of last year, Niles village departments gathered performance data on a wide variety of municipal services ranging from employee recruitment to building permits, to the time it takes the Fire Department to respond to emergency calls.

The data was presented at a recent Village Board meeting and was the first in what will be an annual report to village officials.

The board passed an ordinance in June 2013 to establish the performance measurement program. Matrix Consulting was hired several months later to develop a methodology for the data gathering, identify the five core goals of the program and train department heads to understand what performance measurement was to help develop goals for each category of village service, Niles’ Assistant Village Manager Hadley Skeffington-Vos said in a recent interview. Skeffington-Vos said the board approved a $19,000 contract with Matrix, but that the cost was a one-time expenditure and village staff would now be responsible for tracking performance measurements each year.

The program developed out of a mayoral initiative, Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo said in an interview. “Performance management was something I campaigned on and brought forth after the election,” he said.

He said the inspiration for the program were the rising costs of government and his belief that efficiency and cost savings could be realized if village management had a tool to track their performance.

The five core goals of the program that were identified in the presentation include fiscal accountability, innovative leadership, transparency and accountability, improved service and support for the village’s 2030 comprehensive plan.

First year was primarily about gathering data to set a baseline for village performance, Skeffington-Vos said. Certain village departments, like police and fire, have national standards that can serve as goals, but others will take longer to develop targets for future performance, she said.

When asked about her reaction to the initial data, Skeffington-Vos said some village departments are already “doing really well.” The Human Resources Department, for instance, takes about 48 days on average to recruit an employee for a job opening. She said it likely took much longer when the village was required to keep a job listing posted for 30 days, rather than the current requirement of 15. Additionally, she said, the village boasts a zero percent annual turnover rate across all departments.

But a big goal for the Community Development Department is to issue building permit plan checks within one day, she said. According to the data presented, the department is “only doing same day approval 25 percent of the time,” Skeffington-Vos said.

The village’s Fire Department showed both above and below average data, according to the annual report.

The department responds to medical emergencies within five minutes and 20 seconds only 77 percent of the time, when the national standard is 90 percent, she said.

Some board members asked during the meeting whether the village would use the data it gathers to compare itself to other municipalities in the region. Of the communities within the Northwest Municipal Conference that responded to a survey Skeffington-Vos conducted, she said only Lake Forest reported that it had a similar performance measurement program in place.

But both Skeffington-Vos and Przybylo believe that more municipalities will follow suit and institute these kind of programs in the future.

“I think it’s the right thing to do,” Przybylo said. “I’m prejudiced, but I do believe there will be benefits coming forth as we refine the process and set the goals.”

The entire report for the first year is available at www.vnil.com/708/Performance-Measurement.

Lee V. Gaines is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
New animal hospital welcomes exotic pets

BY BRIDGET O'SHEA
Pioneer Press

Since 2000, when veterinarian Susan Horton began working at the Animal 911 (now BluePearl animal hospital) on Dempster Street, she dreamed of opening her own clinic strictly for rabbits, reptiles, birds and other exotic pets.

Last April, her dream was finally realized when, just two doors down from BluePearl, Horton opened Chicago Exotics Animal Hospital.

"I've been planning this for the last 15 years," Horton said at an open house for Chicago Exotics on June 28. "The people who work here, we've always wanted to do this. We needed that. We were outgrowing our space over there."

Horton said although it took time, her new practice is now complete with four exam rooms, eight technicians and five doctors who perform everything from dental care to acupuncture and chiropractic work on all kinds of exotic pets.

"It's a different field because there's so much more they have to cover," Horton said. "For example, rabbit dental problems are a highly specialized area. For reptiles, it's all about knowing what they need in their environment to keep them healthy. Every exotic vet has lots of extensive training."

The array of animals that are welcomed for treatment at Chicago Exotics is broad. Wallabies, prairie dogs, hedgehogs, snakes, reptiles, ferrets, mice, rats and birds are just some of the patients that veterinarians and staff are trained to treat.

"I've been waiting. I think it's wonderful," said Sandy Bredehoft of Arlington Heights, owner of two birds. "We've been coming since it opened up. I'm an ER nurse. They have everything here that you'd have in a hospital."

A surgical suite, special cages for animals that need extra heat and a laser used for stimulation and anti-inflammatory purposes are some of the features of Chicago Exotics.

Chicago resident Karen Furnweger, owner of 14 turtles and two birds, said she finds Chicago Exotics to be a much more comfortable place to take her many animals than a traditional vet clinic.

"They treat them like they're their own," she said. "I feel such confidence coming here."

Horton said veterinarians and technicians at Chicago Exotics are all specifically trained on the varying metabolisms and infectious organisms that are unique to reptiles.

"Their metabolism and how they handle medicine is very different from a rabbit," she said.

Fish, chickens and ducks are also welcome at Chicago Exotics. Horton said she has even done a few surgical procedures on fish using a machine that keeps water running over the gills.

Horton said she has a lifetime of passion and experience with companion animals of all kinds.

"I've had just about every pet you can imagine," she said. "Exotics is all I ever wanted to do."

Horton said Chicago Exotics sees about 12 to 18 animals a day, which keep veterinarians and technicians busy with procedures like blood draws and medication administration that differ from small animal medicine.

"I like the exotics," said technician Rachel Wintsher. "It's a little more flexible. It's so much more variety. You learn a lot more about different medicines and treatment."

Because such a clinic is rare, Horton said since opening, Chicago Exotics has drawn clients from Indiana, Wisconsin and even as far as Tennessee.

"We've been doing really, really well," said technician Erica Mede. "This place is a dream come true for us. We couldn't ask for a better building or better clients."

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Cops: Kidnapping victims stole safe with $80,000

By Natalie Hayes
Pioneer Press

Two men were kidnapped after they stole a safe containing $80,000 from the home of one of those accused of kidnapping them, police say.

Joseph Van De Carr, 39, of the 1100 block of Northwest Highway in Park Ridge, and Erik O’Caroll, 20, of the 4100 block of North Pittsburgh Avenue in Chicago, were arrested on May 20 and were each charged with aggravated kidnapping, unlawful restraint and aggravated battery. Harwood Heights police said Van De Carr turned himself in. They said they arrested O’Caroll at his home.

Van De Carr’s brother-in-law, John Vincent Verdino, 19, of the 3300 block of Gustav Street in Franklin Park, and Jared A. Roggenkamp, 23, of Park Ridge, both were charged with residential burglary in connection with the incident, Harwood Heights police said.

Authorities said that because the locations of the alleged crimes took place in three towns, the case was investigated by three police departments — Harwood Heights, Park Ridge and River Grove.

Det. Damian Villagomez of the River Grove Police Department said the charges stem from two arrests made by the Park Ridge Police Department in connection with Van De Carr’s home being burglarized on May 15, in which $80,000 in cash and other items were removed from a safe in the home.

A report from the Harwood Heights Police Department said that Roggenkamp told police that he and Verdino decided to burglarize Van De Carr’s home after Verdino’s sister, who is also Van De Carr’s wife, told him Van De Carr had been physically abusive toward her, and that he “was hiding untaxed money in his safe.”

Harwood Heights police said that on May 15, Roggenkamp and Verdino entered Van De Carr’s home and stole a safe containing $80,000. They used $5,000 to buy two used motorcycles, and went out riding the bikes together on May 18, according to Harwood Heights police.

They became separated as they drove east on Grand Avenue in River Grove, police said.

Villagomez said that Van De Carr suspected who might have burglarized his home and confronted Verdino as he rode his motorcycle in River Grove in the area of Elm and Richards streets after Verdino was separated from Roggenkamp.

Van De Carr then allegedly pulled Verdino off the motorcycle, punched him and threw him in the trunk of his car, River Grove police said.

Later that day, Roggenkamp got text messages from Verdino’s phone claiming he had been arrested by the Harwood Heights Police Department. Harwood Heights police said the person sending the messages from Verdino’s phone asked him for a ride from the parking lot of the Life Storage building on the 7100 block of Gunnison Street in Harwood Heights, according to Harwood Heights police.

Authorities said that when Roggenkamp arrived, he was cornered by two other vehicles being driven by O’Caroll and Van De Carr. They dragged him out of his vehicle and started beating him, Harwood Heights police said.

Harwood Heights police said that for the next four hours, Roggenkamp was driven around, beaten and tortured while Van De Carr repeatedly asked him to disclose the location of the money.

Roggenkamp was blindfolded and didn’t know where he was taken, but told police that after about three stops, he was taken out of the vehicle and put into the back seat of another vehicle with Verdino, who reportedly also had been beaten.

Villagomez said the two were taken to another location, restrained with handcuffs and duct tape, and beaten until they revealed where the money was.

Villagomez said the two were released at 4:30 a.m. May 19 at a Franklin Park gas station at Belmont Avenue and River Road after their captors got the money back.

Franklin Park police said Verdino’s father contacted them after seeing the extent of his son’s injuries. The investigation also caught the attention of Park Ridge police, and Verdino and Roggenkamp later were arrested in connection with the burglary of Van De Carr’s home.

Pioneer Press reporter David Pollard contributed to this story.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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The following items were taken from the Niles Police Department reports. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt.

**BATTERY**

- A man told police he was attacked June 19 by a driver who thought he was driving too slow in a parking lot on the 8300 block of Golf Road. According to police, the man reported that after he stopped his vehicle, the driver of the other car approached him, opened his car door, pulled him out of the driver's seat and punched him about four times in the face. The driver then got back in his car and drove away, the victim told police. The man did not want to pursue criminal charges, according to police.

**DISORDERLY CONDUCT**

- An employee of a gas station on the 6900 block of Milwaukee Avenue told police that at around 8:30 a.m. June 23 a man entered the station and began smashing pre-packaged pastries that were offered for sale. When the employee told the man he would have to pay for the food he had damaged, the man refused and later kicked the employee in the leg as he was escorted out of the building, police said. Outside in the parking lot, the man allegedly threw containers of windshield washer fluid off shelves and kicked over garbage cans before leaving the property. According to police, officers located the suspect, but the man refused and later kicked the employee in the face. The driver of the other car approached him, opened his car door, pulled him out of the driver's seat and punched him about four times in the face. The driver then got back in his car and drove away, the victim told police. The man did not want to return to the gas station, police said.

**DUI**

- Lukasz Walus, 23, of the 9200 block of Major Avenue, Morton Grove, was charged with driving under the influence, driving with open alcohol and possession of marijuana on June 20 during a roadside safety check conducted by the police department on the 6900 block of Touhy Avenue. Police said Walus was in possession of 2.4 grams of suspected marijuana, and had an open bottle of vodka in the center console. He has a July 7 court date.

**THEFT**

- Dennis Laboy, 35, of the 900 block of Grant Court, Hanover Park, was charged with retail theft on June 20 after he allegedly stole five DVDs valued at $112 from a store on the 8500 block of Golf Road. He has an Aug. 5 court date.

- Deona Madison, 36, of the 800 block of North Karlov, Chicago, was charged with felony retail theft after she allegedly stole 18 clothing items valued at $304 from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center. She had a June 25 court date.

- Four pairs of Rayban sunglasses, valued at $1,000, were reported stolen June 19 from a store on the 7200 block of Caldwell Avenue.

- A woman told police that her wallet was stolen from her purse on June 20 while she shopped inside a store on the 7200 block of Touhy Avenue. She has an Aug. 5 court date.

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NU seeks FBI help after more graffiti found

BY BRIAN L. COX
Pioneer Press

After a fourth recent incident in which anti-Semitic or racist graffiti was found on the grounds of a Northwestern University building in Evanston, the FBI has been asked to help investigate what authorities are calling a “hate crime,” school officials said.

“University police have asked the FBI to assist in the investigation and have classified this as a hate crime,” said Alan Cubbage, president of university relations for Northwestern. “It is obviously a matter of concern and very troubling.”

On June 19, during an early-morning security sweep, school authorities found a swastika and other offensive graffiti etched in dirt on a window at Ryan Field, where the university held its graduation ceremony later in the day, officials said.

“It was drawn in the dirt or the dust on the windows,” Cubbage said. “That was removed shortly thereafter. It was well before Ryan Field was open for commencement, so none of the guests saw any of the graffiti.”

The June 19 incident marks at least the fourth time in the last two months similar graffiti has turned up on university property in Evanston, officials said.

Diane Carbonara, a public affairs specialist with the FBI’s Chicago office, wrote in an email that the FBI had been called in to discuss graffiti with Northwestern officials. On June 8, anti-Semitic and racist graffiti was spray-painted at the construction site of the new Kellogg School of Management near the lakefront and around campus,” Cubbage said. “What’s happening now is the university police are investigating with the assistance of the FBI in trying to determine if there is any kind of relationship among them or any pattern.”

Brian L. Cox is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

LINCOLNWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 74 NEWS BRIEFS

The following items were discussed and/or action was taken on at the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education meeting on Thursday, June 25.

Last week of summer school approaches

The last day of summer school for the 190 students enrolled in this year’s programs will be Friday, July 10, according to information from District 74.

More than 50 classes are being offered during this year’s summer school program, including math, science, writing, photography, cooking, and yoga.

The school board approved resignations, leaves of absence

Eighth grade math teacher Suzanne Barrels resigned, effective June 9.

Special education aide Denise Rubenstein resigned, effective May 29.

First grade teacher Dana Harf and eighth grade Spanish teacher Maria Ricotta will take a leave of absence during the 2015-16 school year.

School board tables initiative to install security cameras throughout District 74 campus

The District 74 school board has tabled a recommendation by the facilities committee to install security cameras for the entire District 74 campus at a capped cost of about $108,000, according to information from the school board.

Further information on when the installation would take place or how many security cameras would be installed was not immediately available.

School district hires new teachers

The school board approved new hires during the June 25 meeting. All new teachers will begin on August 10, according to information from the school board.

Elizabeth Golden was hired to teach second grade at Todd Hall School. The board approved a salary of $62,391.

Michael Wittenborn was hired to teach fourth grade at Rutledge Hall at a salary of $59,630.

Next school board meeting scheduled

The next school board meeting will be held on Thursday, Aug. 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Lincolnwood Village Hall, 6900 N. Lincoln Ave, Lincolnwood.
D64 extends superintendent's contract, approves pay raise

Heinz to get 2 percent increase and upgrade to benefits package

BY BOB CHIARITO
Pioneer Press

Park-Ridge Niles School District 64 extended the contract of Laurie Heinz this week and gave her a raise.

Heinz, who is completing her first year in the district as superintendent, had a three-year contract. The extension of her contract by one year was discussed and approved by the board at the June 22 meeting.

Heinz will also receive a 2 percent salary increase, from $201,000 to $205,020 beginning in the 2015-2016 year, according to District 64 Chief School Business Official Becky Allard.

In addition, Heinz’ benefits package will now include 100 percent dental and health coverage.

District 64 Board President Anthony Borrelli explained that the board’s action was routine, and described Heinz’ contract as a revolving, three-year contract.

“Every year the board determines if the superintendent will have a year added to the back end. This is a three-year, revolving contract,” Borrelli said.

He said the board approved the extension and raise unanimously, and would not be surprised if they do it again next year.

“She has blown us away with her goals and objectives. We are unanimous in our support, and I fully expect to do it again next year,” Borrelli said.

Approval of compensation for building and district certified administrators and approval of salary for outside groups was also discussed at the meeting, but no vote was taken. Action on those items is expected at the board’s next regular meeting, July 13, according to district spokeswoman Bernadette Tramm.

Also taking place at Monday’s meeting, three students were awarded 2015 Judith L. Snow Awards. The awards, named for a Park Ridge resident who worked with the League of Women Voters, are given annually to students who are ethical leaders among their peers.

Receiving the honors this year were Sophia Post, from Emerson Middle School, and Abby Flood and Ainsley Owen, from Lincoln Middle School.

Bob Chiarito is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Chicago aviation chief: O'Hare expansion only the beginning

BY JON HILKEVITCH
Chicago Tribune

Modern airports from Atlanta to Denver have been "stealing traffic" from O'Hare International Airport, a loss O'Hare can halt only by being more competitive and attractive to fliers, the city's new aviation chief said Wednesday.

Outdated management of facilities at O'Hare, misguided attempts by the airlines to jam more flights into the airport during the busiest travel hours and a shortage of gates that often adds to passenger delays have contributed to the problem, Aviation Commissioner Ginger Evans said during her first interview with the Tribune.

A week after confirmation to her new post, Evans advocated an agenda of growth for O'Hare that she predicted will extend the airport's life by another 40 years, but also said the airport can and should be a better neighbor.

A record number of noise complaints about new flight patterns at O'Hare, which utilize new east-west runways, have been logged this year. Mitigating noise won't be easy, she added, because the new parallel runway configuration at O'Hare is mostly built, and alternatives to use the airport's diagonal runways are limited.

"People 10 miles away from the airport, I can tell you right now today that there probably is not much I can do for them," Evans said about the change in air traffic patterns.

Evans confirmed she will meet Monday with a citizens group that has been pressing the Emanuel administration — with no success so far — to meet and agree on solutions to reduce the jet-noise impact on communities east and west of O'Hare. Those areas are in the direct flight path of the parallel runways.

Monday's meeting, the first of three planned sessions negotiated with help from state legislators, will involve the Chicago Department of Aviation and representatives of Fair Allocation in Runways (FAIR). The meeting will also be open to noise experts hired by the Suburban O'Hare Commission if FAIR wants them there, Evans said.

Jac Charlier, co-founder of FAIR, said Wednesday that "community conversations" with city officials "must start with the citizens" before expanding to include other participants.

Evans is an engineer with more than 30 years of airport experience and came to Chicago this month from the airport system serving the nation's capital.

Chronic flight delays and congestion that trap passengers at O'Hare should make it clear to anyone that more work needs to be done, she said. Additional and more comfortable seating in O'Hare's concourses as well as better food and retail concessions are "sorely needed. No question about it," she said.

"Denver has been punching above its weight for 20 years because they had the capacity and they didn't," Evans said. "See, I'm working as a consultant helped build the Denver airport. "I'm telling you, you took part of O'Hare's traffic."

The O'Hare Modernization Program was first presented around 2003 as a solution to flight delays caused by bad weather. So far it has not lived up to that billing. Among the nation's 29 busiest airports, O'Hare ranked No. 28 for on-time departures in the first four months of this year, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation. O'Hare was No. 26 for on-time arrivals.

Gate shortage

Evans is the first city official, since the Daley administration put plans on hold to build a new passenger terminal on the west side of O'Hare, to say that there is a gate shortage at the airport, which last year handled more flights than any other airport in the world.

"There is absolutely a gate shortage, both short-term and a long-term need," she said.

Evans said one of her priorities will be to build additional gates. But, Evans said, the options will not be limited to the approximately 50 gates that Chicago had originally planned at the western terminal complex. There is room elsewhere on the airfield, including space to construct additional taxiways and terminal expansions that would increase efficiency of transiting planes, she said.

United Airlines and American Airlines, which operate more than 85 percent of O'Hare flights, insist no gate shortage exists and that they will not contribute funding to construct the western terminal, which potentially could be used by competitor airlines.

There is virtual unanimity among airline pilots and FAA air traffic controllers, however, that O'Hare desperately needs more gates, particularly now to balance the increase in airfield capacity created by new runways. The shortage isn't lost on arriving passengers, who are regularly informed by apologetic flight crews that the plane is not moving because no gates are available.

Evans said the existing gate shortage is made worse every winter because of outdated airport procedures that require planes to be de-iced at the gate before taxiing to departure runways. Sometimes, when flights are delayed during snowfalls and low temperatures, pilots must return to the gate to be de-iced again.

She said that to free up gates more quickly, especially until new ones are built, she will instruct the aviation department to stage de-icing pads. Used at many other airports, the pads employ a "car-wash"-style de-icing process. Trucks are positioned just beyond the wingtips and douse jets with ice-melting fluid while they taxi to their runway.

O'Hare officials have long said that the airport, tightly packed onto about 7,000 acres, simply doesn't have the space to operate de-icing pads, in part because existing pads are used as holding areas, so-called "penalty boxes," during severe congestion for flights that are delayed.

Increased flights

Airlines serving O'Hare have compounded delays by sharply increasing flights during the already busiest times of day, Evans said.

"What really drives delays is peak-period activity," she said. "The airlines pick and choose hubs (at which to operate) based on their ability to get people in that particular hour. And there is a max on that hour."

Evans withheld details on car-

Ginger Evans, Chicago's new aviation commissioner, is an engineer with more than 30 years of airport experience and came to Chicago this month from the airport system serving the nation's capital.

-existing runways set to open in 2020 must also be built.

United and American oppose any additional runway construction until passenger traffic increases to the point of requiring more airfield capacity. Reminded of United and American's firm position, Evans said: "They'll agree. The whole conversation has been a little bit too simplistic to date."

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Morton Grove Days puts the mayor in dunk tank

BY PAM DEFILIO
Pioneer Press

Morton Grove is ready to burst into party mode July 2 when Morton Grove Days kicks off with a carnival, games, live music and a food court. The festivities will reach into even higher gear July 4 with a parade and fireworks.

The volunteer committee which runs the event has secured donations for about half the cost of the fireworks, and is still looking to raise the remaining cost. Donations in any amount will be accepted at the Information Booth or at www.mortongrovedays.org.

Mayor Dan DiMaria said he's looking forward to the opening ceremony on Thursday, held at the festival grounds at 6140 Dempster Street, between the American Legion Civic center and Harrer Park.

DiMaria will take a turn sitting in the carnival dunk tank at 4:30 p.m. Saturday.

"Don't miss the parade and fireworks," Brunner said, adding people should catch as much of the entertainment as they can, as well.

This year's festival will relive the seventies, eighties and nineties, with several themed bands playing in the entertainment area each night. A Steely Dan tribute band, the Bad Sneakers, will play at 8 p.m. Thursday, a 70s and 80s rock cover band, Voyage, will play at 6 p.m. Thursday and, Chicago Experience, a Chicago tribute band, will play at 8 p.m. On Saturday, The Who get their due at 5:15, with the Who's Who tribute band. At 8 p.m. Billy Elton, a band which plays the music of Billy Joel and Elton John, will play.

Audience members will need to walk over to the field north of Harrer Park by 9:15 to 9:30 or so, however, in order to spread their blankets or chairs on the lawn to see the fireworks at 9:45. Typically, fireworks shows last about a half-hour in Morton Grove.

Parking is available at Prairie View Plaza at Dempster St. and Waukegan Ave. From there, it is about a three-block walk to the Harrer Park field. Street parking is extremely limited, and be prepared to wait in traffic to exit the area after the fireworks.

Paul Minx, the volunteer in charge of the beer garden, said it will offer Anti-Hero IPA, Leinenkugel's Summer Shandy and Blue Moon craft beers, as well as regular beer.

Wristbands good for unlimited rides at the carnival are available for $60 until July 1, and $70 after July 1, at www.mortongrovedays.org.

In recent years, the festival and parade have taken place during extremely hot weather, but predictions call for temperatures in the 70s this year.

"We're praying for good weather," said Brunner. "As long as it's dry and not too hot, nor too cold, we'll be OK."

Pam DeFiglio is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

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Local firefighters help with tornado recovery in Coal City

BY KIMBERLY FORNEK
Pioneer Press

Thirty-nine local firefighters spent June 23 in Coal City, pitching in to help people recover from the recent tornado there. Hinsdale Fire Department Captain Dave DeWolf and firefighter/paramedic Mike Karban said they heard stories of people who had lived through the natural disaster, including one family who told them they’d lain spread-eagle in their crawl space as the tornado destroyed their house.

“’You can’t imagine the terror these people lived through, as their homes were being torn off on top of them,’” DeWolf said. “And the next day, they were outside, concerned about looking after their neighbors.” Previous Tribune reports showed that five people were taken to the hospital with minor injuries, but no deaths were reported from the tornado June 22, which brought winds up to 160 mph to the Coal City area.

DeWolf and Karban said the aftermath of the tornado was overwhelming.

“There was tremendous destruction,” DeWolf said. “Large trees were snapped in half. Cars were overturned. Seeing this kind of damage on TV doesn’t compare to seeing it in person.”

Karban said that on a typical block in the area they were assigned, three homes were flattened, two were partially torn apart and the others were untouched.

“You could see the path of the tornado,” DeWolf said. “Half the roof was torn off one house, and the house next door, the glass in the windows wasn’t even broken.”

Others who did not live in the area were there helping out, DeWolf said.

“We did see massive destruction, but they had it under control,” Karban said. “There was camaraderie and they were upbeat and everybody was helping each other out.”

The residents were offering bottles of water to the first responders, he said. One man whose home was destroyed was outside barbecuing hot dogs and offered them to the firefighters, Karban said.

The firefighters from the Hinsdale Fire Department, the Darien-Woodridge and the Tri-State fire protection districts went to Coal City June 23 to help out after the tornado. The Coal City area firefighters who had been working all night.

The firefighters from DuPage and Cook counties were assigned to a section of the city that held a subdivision with nice houses, DeWolf said. They walked the streets, introduced themselves and offered assistance. Mainly, they determined whether it was safe for residents to enter their homes to retrieve important items, DeWolf and Karban said.

“A lot of people already had made calls to their insurance companies and there were restoration companies on site and tree-trimming companies removing limbs,” DeWolf said.

The roof of the Coal City fire station where they were based actually had been damaged by the tornado, Karban said. A 110-foot radio tower had collapsed on the station roof, he said.

The Coal City firefighters on duty that night went into a storage room for shelter when they heard the tornado approaching, Karban said.

“They physically were holding the door shut against the wind, Karban said. ”They felt the apparatus floor moving beneath them.”

DeWolf and Karban said they’d never before seen
Advocate Lutheran General Hospital marks ER reopening

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Following 18 months of construction, Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge is opening the doors of its newly expanded and renovated emergency room.

The completion of the $40 million project was celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony June 24, six days before the planned opening of the emergency room to patients.

The new ER includes 33 adult treatment rooms and nine separate pediatric treatment rooms, which is 11 more beds than previously existed, information provided by the hospital shows. Two more urgent care areas have also been added and the waiting room was remodeled.

In November, it is anticipated that two new operating rooms will be functional as well, according to Dr. John White, chairman of the Department of Surgery.

Dr. Douglas Propp, chairman of Emergency Medicine at Lutheran General, said the expansion is in response to an ever-growing number of emergency room patients at the level one trauma center.

“Ours volume continues to go up,” Propp said. “We are probably going to be hitting 70,000 (ER) visits this year.”

Evasive Woloshyn, a spokeswoman for Lutheran General, said the hospital saw 50,000 adult emergency room patients in 2015 and approximately 17,000 children. An informational sign at the entrance to the emergency area states that in 2000, the last time the ER was expanded, the hospital recorded 47,000 patient visits to the emergency room.

An aging population and a growing number of people who now have access to health insurance could explain the increase in emergency room visits, Propp said.

In 2005, the number of available emergency rooms in the area was reduced when Holy Family Medical Center in Des Plaines closed its ER after transitioning to a long-term acute-care hospital.

Propp added that patients are also “generally coming in more sick.”

“Whether it’s a trauma patient, a patient with a heart attack, a patient with a stroke or a patient with a severe infection, we need to have the facilities and the resources to meet the needs of those patients,” he said.

Will the new ER cut down on the amount of time patients have to spend in the waiting room?

“Hopefully so,” Propp says. “That’s the expectation.”

The hospital has expanded physician staff by about 10 percent and expects to increase nursing staff “based on the volume of patients and the acuity of patients,” Propp added.

The operating rooms that are scheduled to open this fall will include one dedicated to advanced robotic surgery and feature an attached classroom for surgical students and visiting surgeons from around the world, said Dr. John White.

Several years ago the emergency room was renamed the Simms Family Emergency and Trauma Center in recognition of Jean and John Simms of Park Ridge who, hospital officials say, have donated more than $5 million to the hospital over the last 50 years. Several members of the Simms family were present for the ribbon cutting of the new ER that will continue to bear their name.

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Too much focus on Confederate flag

Randy Blaser

Like many Americans, I'm fascinated with the history of the Civil War. I've read many books on the subject and even visited some of the great battlefields where the war was waged. Thanks to the Internet, I've discovered that I have two ancestors who fought in that bitter war: a second great-grandfather who served in the 5th Wisconsin Light Battery and a third great-grandfather who was in the 3rd Wisconsin Regiment and was wounded in the Antietam campaign. So I've long had a strong opinion regarding the Confederate battle flag, or the "Stars and Bars." It's the symbol of rebellion against the United States and the repression of black Americans. As such a symbol, I've always found it repugnant that it is flying over state capital buildings or part of state flags. I'm glad to see it could be on its way out from its place outside the South Carolina Statehouse in the wake of the discussion over the recent shootings in Charleston at the Emanuel AME Church.

But to be honest, I think it has become too much the focus of the debate. The Confederate flag has become a convenient political symbol to exploit our cultural differences and a way to avoid real discussion about race in this country.

For many Americans, the flag is a symbol of shame, not a romantic image of past valor. But many southerners claim they find it a source of cultural pride, almost like fried chicken and sweet tea. I recognize my reaction to that flag isn't the only reaction that's possible or valid.

Just as I am proud of my ancestors who fought for the Union, I know others from the south are proud of the ancestors who fought for their state.

A Confederate flag waves in the wind at the Confederate Memorial Park in Tampa, Fla., on June 24.

I don't wish to condemn those individuals who view that flag with some romantic nostalgia, or don't understand why black people feel repelled by it. I'll allow individuals to keep their pride. However, I don't like governments flying the symbol of rebellion.

And I don't like how the flag has become a political football leading to more bombast between Democrats and Republicans. Like it or not, that flag also represents the paradox we all share as Americans — northerners and southerners. It is the paradox of the existence of slavery in a country declared to be a free land. It is the paradox of inequality that exists among people who believe that all are created equal. It is the paradox of independent states forming one union that tore itself apart over different ideas about freedom, equality and independence.

In trying to understand the paradox for today, I look to Ulysses S. Grant, who defeated the rebels who fought under that flag. At the war's end, he heard his troops cheering Robert E. Lee's surrender. Grant ordered them to be quiet. "The rebels are our countrymen again," he said.

Yes, they are our countrymen again. But that wasn't the end. And taking down a flag won't end the discussion we need to have about race and how we treat each other on a daily basis.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Blackhawks celebration missing my brother

Tim, the 'Dean of Hockey Writers'

Paul Sassone

Sometimes angry, always sad. That's how I felt watching the Blackhawks' triumphant march to the Stanley Cup. I have nothing but admiration for the Blackhawks. They are a great team and a great organization. They deserve the eminence they have achieved.

But Tim should have been there. It's not fair. He would have loved it.

Tim loved hockey and the Blackhawks. And for 26 years, he shared that love with his readers. Tim Sassone, my youngest brother, covered the Blackhawks and the NHL for the Daily Herald. Tim died on March 24, 2014. His death elicited an outpouring of love for the man and respect for the writer and reporter.

His readers and colleagues had come to know Tim as the "Dean of Hockey Writers." When Tim died, legendary sportswriter Bob Verdi wrote, "Tim Sassone had it all. He was a terrific writer and reporter. He knew hockey and loved it. He respected his readers, his profession and his newspaper. He was a professional who took his job seriously, but was able to laugh. Above all, he was a prince of a man. We have lost a really good man."

Tim loved sports ever since he was a youngster. And as a sportswriter, he covered all sports in his all-too-short life.

But hockey was special to him. He had several opportunities to switch to more glamorous beats, such as the Bears or the Cubs. He always refused.

It might be hard to believe now, but when Tim began covering the Blackhawks, the organization was not the fan favorite it is today. But Tim loved hockey. Tim loved the Blackhawks. So he stayed. He waited. He wrote. He analyzed. He explained. And his patience and loyalty bore fruit. Today's Blackhawks are a dynasty.

Tim was there for two Stanley Cup championships. How I wish he had been here for this one. That he wasn't is sad and makes me more sad than I can say. But shaking my fist at the sun won't end the discussion we need to have about race and how we treat each other on a daily basis.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Wrong to blame Rauner for Illinois budget mess

In reading all the articles about Gov. Bruce Rauner and the state budget, it seems many hold Rauner responsible for the budget mess. How can anyone who lives in or out of Cook County ignore the fact that it is House Speaker Michael Madigan and Senate President John Cullerton who drive all Illinois politics? They control everything: budget, unions, pensions and everything and anything that has any financial impact on the budget. We have a mayor here in Chicago who also belongs to the machine and works with Madigan and Cullerton to control everything.

Vivian Cielak, Northbrook
The Rachel Dolezal case is disempowering to black women

The appropriation of black culture and identity by white people is, unfortunately, nothing new. It has a long history, beginning with the minstrel shows, then Elvis and continuing today. Rachel Dolezal’s impersonation of a black woman is profoundly disempowering to black women and women of color in America who suffer oppression, prejudice, injustice and violence every day — because Rachel was born white. She had a choice between a black and white identity. Millions of black women do not have a choice to be anything except who they are.

Because Rachel had a choice, she demonstrated her white privilege by making that choice. She also demonstrated a cardinal belief of colonialism that the culture and beliefs of the colonized person are ours to possess as if we owned them.

Her choice trivializes black women’s struggles, making it difficult for mixed-race people who “appear white” to be accepted as mixed, and also, her choice to “become black” invalidates some of her work with black communities. She could have done more for her cause from a position of honesty, using her power as a white person to effect change.

—Mark Langenfeld, Burr Ridge

Thanks Rep. Quigley for supporting TPA

As an International Paper employee, a company that employs nearly 100 people at our container plant in Northlake, I am thankful for Congressman Mike Quigley’s support for Trade Promotion Authority (TPA). TPA is an important process that will allow the current administration, as well as future presidents, to craft strong trade agreements that will put the interests of American manufacturing front and center by leveling the playing field and opening new markets for our products. TPA will increase transparency in trade negotiations, and will ensure that the United States plays a central role in shaping trade agreements.

Rep. Quigley demonstrated leadership by supporting TPA. In voting for this critical piece of legislation, he voted to stand up for his constituents and those who work in manufacturing. Thank you, Congressman Quigley.

—Vito Gozdziewicz, Northlake

For the 1 in 5 kids with learning and attention issues, every day can be a challenge. Explore Understood.org, a free online resource designed to help you help your child thrive in school and in life.

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Estimated travel time signs are scary accurate

DAN MORAN

Driving east the other day on Washington Street — aka the waistline of Lake County — I saw one of those advisory signs that estimate your travel time.

Well, usually they estimate your travel time when you see them on Interstates. They also keep score of the number of people killed on area roadways, just in case you needed a moment of optimism to get you through a tough day.

Anyway, these estimated-travel signs have been popping up more often on the shoulders of county roadways, and it was high time to put them to the test. Just how accurate can these things be given the variables of driving? I mean, can they account for getting stuck behind a truck? Do these estimates apply to a reckless youngster who grew up on the “Fast & Furious” library of film?

After a completely unscientific study, this much can be reported about the accuracy of these roadside travel estimates: They are scary accurate. They might leave you wondering who is watching you and why.

Let's start with a sign parked on Washington at Bellevue Drive, about a half-mile east of Hainesville Road. Its forecast in recent mid-morning traffic said “TIME TO IL 83: 5 MIN.” I interpreted this cryptic message to mean that it would take me five minutes to drive the 2.25 miles from there to Route 83 in Grayslake, where Washington Street traffic goes to stop and contemplate its purpose.

It should be noted that you can cover 2.25 miles in less than two minutes at highway speed, but in this case, the speed limits ranged from 30 to 40 mph. Even so, five minutes seemed too conservative in light traffic. I set a stopwatch, and off I went.

After rolling along just fine, I hit a red light at Hainesville. After that, I was again rolling along just fine until I hit another red light at Lake Street. Coincidence? Perhaps not.

I approached the intersection with Route 83 — which, of course, was featuring its usual red light for east-west traffic — and waited until I came to a complete standstill to hit the stopwatch. Its reading: 4:52, or a mere eight seconds shy of the estimate.

A chill ran down my spine. Excitement? Fear?

Next up was a sign about a football field to the east: “TIME TO IL 21: 8 MINS” and “IL 131: 13 MINS.” Mr. Roboto was doubling the stakes. I took that bet.

As with my first experiment, I attempted at all times to be near the speed limit. This was nearly impossible on Washington between Route 45 and Hunt Club Road, where the posted limit is 40 mph and traffic generally moves around 50. A few years ago, you could go the usual 5 mph over the limit and move with traffic. More recently, this practice will leave you with a Ford F-350 or a Honda Odyssey in your trunk.

Anyway, after hitting red lights at both Route 45 and Almond Road, I pulled to a stop at Route 21, which is known to locals as Milwaukee Avenue. My time: 8:23. And I might have been right at the eight-minute prediction if I hadn't slowed down for a guy who was either lost or texting.

The expected red light at Greenleaf Avenue was about all that separated me from the final frontier of Route 131/Green Bay Road. Greenleaf did not defy my expectations, but traffic was otherwise smooth. I reached the finish line and hit the stopwatch: 12:54, or six seconds short. I looked over my shoulder to see if a plain white van or a drone were on my tail.

The final analysis on these roadside travel estimators? Trust them. Or maybe we humans do so at our peril.

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Memories spark massive response for fish and chips

So, I just shelved what I was going to write about this week in favor of a developing story. No, this is much bigger than the Blackhawks winning the Stanley Cup or Dave Grohl breaking his leg during a Foo Fighters concert in Sweden and finishing the show — although talk about hockey-player tough!

Instead, we’re talking about fish and chips. There is a public group on Facebook called “Old School Golf Mill Mallrats” that has more than 2,100 members, including yours truly. The page is dedicated to the Golf Mill Shopping Center in suburban Niles, which was the social nerve center for kids growing up in the surrounding area. It’s where many spent time in the 1970s and 1980s loitering back-to-school clothes shopping, waiting in line for “Star Wars” movies and running up the down escalators in department stores. I finally had to stop escalator sprints after I got a job in one of those stores.

Many of the shopping mall posts are reminders of nostalgic times when Golf Mill used to be an outdoor mall until it was enclosed in the 1980s. Frequent topics include places to eat in and near Golf Mill, including recent posts of food favorites from back in the day. I finally joined the conversation and offered my vote for best throwback takeout food shack, which of course was Arthur Treacher’s Fish and Chips on Greenwood near Dempster. Oh, for the smell of battered fish and vinegar on a broiling summer day!

Within about 90 minutes of posting a few lines about Arthur Treacher’s goodness and an old file photo of what the place looked like, an unexpected and ginosous outpouring of memories began. At last count, this post has generated more than 100 “likes” along with a lengthy list of fond memories of what the local fish and chips emporium meant to them.

Judging by the rapid response and highly-positive nature of all the comments, there is apparently a severe lack of good fish and chips in the suburbs! But with such a huge fan following you have to wonder what caused Arthur Treacher’s to close near the Park Ridge-Niles border decades ago and pull out of Illinois. Maybe economic factors finally shut down the fish fryers, but I sense a new business opportunity to fix an underserved and widespread craving for quality fish and chips in the burbs.

A check of the Arthur Treacher’s website shows the closest franchise is in Ohio. Appropriately, there’s one in — wait for it — Niles, Ohio. It’s about a seven-hour drive from Chicago to the next closest Arthur Treacher’s.

Hmm.
Eric Scott is a freelancer.
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<td>15 S Chestnut Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
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<td>06-05-15</td>
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<td>154 W Campbell St, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Peter Alfano &amp; Christina Cipriano</td>
<td>Philip Campanella</td>
<td>06-02-15</td>
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<td>422 S Salem Ln, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>John E. Guis &amp; Jonnee Chu</td>
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<td>350 E Oakton St, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Scott Sensitive &amp; Megan Sensitive</td>
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<td>1714 Serty Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
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<td>526 S Mitchell Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
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<td>Laura A. Reid</td>
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<tr>
<td>750 N W Getsby Dr, Arlington Heights</td>
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<td>Scott Becker</td>
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<td>1116 E. Visitor Ct, Arlington Heights</td>
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<td>06-01-15</td>
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<td>1815 E. Northfield Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>David Gazda &amp; Julia L. Meshebesi</td>
<td>Dennis E. Brien</td>
<td>05-29-15</td>
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<td>Frank E. Byrne</td>
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<td>George Ishioka Bebishi</td>
<td>06-02-15</td>
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<td>1540 N. Northwest Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Brian L. Reid &amp; Brad S. Stetson</td>
<td>Lorretta C. Stetson</td>
<td>06-02-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>801 S. Chestnut Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
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<td>John E. Connor</td>
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<td>205 S. Dunton Ave, #2, Arlington Heights</td>
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<td>Thomas M. Pomatto</td>
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<td>1124 N. Douglas Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
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<td>David W. McCuskey</td>
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<td>301 N. Cloverdale Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Jason C. Peterson &amp; Shauna R. Peterson</td>
<td>Susan R. Tharp</td>
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<td>1914 N. Highlands Ave, Arlington Heights</td>
<td>Lawrence C. McInerny &amp; Frank C. Cernicini</td>
<td>Orin Cambridge Homes Inc</td>
<td>06-01-15</td>
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<td>Mark C. Zimmermann</td>
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<td>351 Town Place, #411, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Fang Zhang</td>
<td>Alireza Amali</td>
<td>05-29-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>1502 Hidden Lake Dr, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Valerie Vangriemen</td>
<td>Robert McIlven</td>
<td>06-01-15</td>
<td>$189,500</td>
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<td>310 Umc Dr, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Tatia Kolk</td>
<td>Matthew Labus</td>
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<td>340 Cherrywood Rd, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Sean T. Stadler</td>
<td>Marcia S. H. Clark</td>
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<tr>
<td>490 White Pine Rd, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Mark C. Mucke &amp; Coleman L. Mucke</td>
<td>Joanna Czieszki</td>
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<td>686 Stanford Ln, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Srinavasa Reddy Pidaparti &amp; Rajani D. Pidaparti</td>
<td>Gail M. Frandsen</td>
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<td>117 Manchester Dr, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Ed Coder &amp; Marinis Conter</td>
<td>Leslie H. Klein</td>
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<td>117 Lockwood Dr, Buffalo Grove</td>
<td>Myungkee Yoon &amp; Hyeong Cho</td>
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<td>Marian Krezczak</td>
<td>Marcin Slomski</td>
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<td>Alexander F. Farrell</td>
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<td>Velco Velez</td>
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<td>Lukasz Ziemianski</td>
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<td>Eugene Molese</td>
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<td>Marco A. Suriol</td>
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<td>1325 Pennsylvania Ave, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Robert Bacewicz &amp; Eva Bacewicz</td>
<td>James Dijep</td>
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<tr>
<td>771 Sahnbus, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Raghavan Sundararajan &amp; Shilpa Krishnasamy</td>
<td>Shilpa Chiu</td>
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<td>1819 S. Kinsland Dr, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Fred G. Stoll</td>
<td>Dominick J. Canne</td>
<td>06-02-15</td>
<td>$256,000</td>
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</table>
VERNON HILLS


Address: 402 Cherry Valley Road
Price: $250,000
Schools: Vernon Hills High School
Taxes: $6,582
Agent: Amy Kite/Keller Williams Infinity

WILMETTE

Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Custom hardwood floors with mahogany inlay throughout 1st & 2nd floors. Open kitchen with granite & stainless steel appliances. Family room offers fireplace & double sliders to landscaped yard backing to walking path, pond & steps to park. First-floor office/den and master suite. All baths remodeled. Minutes to 1-90.

Address: 811 Kennicott Place
Price: $639,900
Schools: New Trier Township High School
Taxes: $11,578
Agent: Karen Goins/EMAX Unlimited

NORTHBROOK


Address: 2129 Oak Ave.
Price: $399,411
Schools: Glenbrook North High School
Taxes: $4,992
Agent: Emilia Salonikas/Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Northbrook

Lists from Homefinder.com.

REAL ESTATE HOMES IN YOUR AREA

Agent: Amy Kite/Keller Williams Infinity
Schools: Vernon Hills High School
Price: $6,582
Address: 402 Cherry Valley Road
slate floors, full bath & 4th bedroom.

PIONEER PRESS MORTGAGE GUIDE

Check rates daily at http://pioneerlocalinterest.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Fees</th>
<th>% Down</th>
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<td>APR reflects fees shown</td>
<td>/Call for add'l info</td>
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<td>(C) 7001 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, IL 60626</td>
<td>Mortgagor.com</td>
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Calculate Your Mortgage Payment

This week: 4.16 3.35 3.23
Last week: 4.13 3.35 3.22
Last year: 4.28 3.39 3.33

Source: Bankrate.com, for more information visit www.bankrate.com.

Lenders, to have your rates appear in this feature call Bankrate.com @ 800-509-4636

LENDERS, TO HAVE YOUR RATES APPEAR IN THIS FEATURE CALL BANKRATE.COM @ 800-509-4636

רהק לצ 준비 השיק 함 ב מועק של מתן של ה-

what if the future of kids was a stock you could invest in?

Introducing Better Futures — a whole new kind of investment with a greater return than money. When you invest, it helps kids go to college. Because a mind is a terrible thing to waste but a wonderful thing to invest in.

Invest in Better Futures at UNCF.ORG/INVEST

Fixated Rate Mortgage Trend

Each week Bankrate surveys mortgage experts to predict which way rates will go in coming weeks. Here is what they say this week (6/29/15 - 7/11/15)

Source: Bankrate.com 2015

Feel % Down

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>30 yr fixed</th>
<th>15 yr fixed</th>
<th>5 yr ARM</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
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<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Source: Bankrate.com, for more information visit www.bankrate.com.
Uptown Park Ridge train station to get a ‘Sweet’ addition

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Morning commuters will again be able to buy baked goods and a cup of coffee without having to leave the Uptown Park Ridge train platform.

B’s Sweet Bites is scheduled to occupy the vacant snack shop space inside the Metra train station at 100 S. Summit Ave. The Park Ridge City Council is expected to vote on a lease agreement between the city and the owner of the shop during a July 6 City Council meeting.

Aldermen on June 22 gave tentative support for the proposal, which will generate $2,400 annually in rent for the city. Additionally, if the shop’s gross annual sales exceed $84,000, the city will receive 5 percent of all additional sales, said Park Ridge Director of Finance Joe Gilmore.

Park Ridge resident Bianca Vallone opened B’s Sweet Bites at 1641 Oakton Place in Des Plaines in the fall of 2013. The shop inside the Park Ridge train station will be her second location and she expects to be open from 5 to 11 a.m. on weekdays.

“We get a lot of good feedback from Park Ridge,” Vallone said, explaining that she has sold at the Park Ridge Farmers Market and will have a booth during Taste of Park Ridge. “Everyone’s always asking us if we can move (to Park Ridge). I can’t really move my space, but when we saw the open spot (at the train station), I thought, ‘Why not?’”

Among the items on the menu will be doughnuts, cannoli cakes, croissants and pies — all individual servings — as well as coffee, lattes and teas, Vallone said.

She stated that she expects to open her shop later this summer once she receives final approval from the City Council.

The Uptown train station has not had a regular food vendor as a tenant since at least 2010, according to Tim Schwarz, of the city's environmental health and business licensing department.

Several years ago, Schwarz said, All on the Road Catering ran a morning “express” shop there and in December 2011, three local businesses opened the seasonal Gourmet Gift Shop, which featured personalized gift baskets, gourmet coffees and teas, popcorn and other items.

The last regular tenant of the train station was charged the same amount in rent — $200 per month — that B’s Sweet Bites will be charged, Gilmore said.

The Uptown Park Ridge train station.

Village: Planet Fitness, Binny’s, PetSmart might fill vacant Dominick’s

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

The village of Lincolnwood is now entertaining a developer’s plans to bring a mix of retailers to the property on the 6800 block of McCormick Boulevard.

Pennsylvania-based R&R Global Partners, LLC has approached the village with plans to renovate the existing vacant building and bring in a Planet Fitness, Binny’s Beverage Depot, and a PetSmart store, according to information from the village’s Economic Development Commission.

Lincolnwood’s shuttered Dominick’s store has sat vacant since the supermarket chain closed its Midwest stores nearly two years ago.

Preliminary plans for the property also show a Zips Dry Cleaners that would be housed in an outlot building on the property.

Whole Foods and Mariano’s Fresh Market swooped in to take over many of the former Dominick’s stores in the Chicago land area, but the former Lincolnwood location is one of the few stores in the Chicago land area that was not purchased by a competing supermarket chain, and the 62,000-square-foot building remains completely vacant.

Cermak Fresh Market purchased the 280,159-square-foot property from Domini- cks’s parent company, Safeway, in 2014. R&R Global now has a contract to acquire the parcel of land from Cermak Fresh Market, according to information from the village.

Both Planet Fitness and Zips Dry Cleaning have signed-on with R&R Global to become tenants, according to village information, and the developer is reportedly in negotiations with Binny’s and PetSmart.

Construction on the proposed project is scheduled to begin in late July, with an anticipated completion date of December 2015 or early 2016, according to a report provided to the village from Kane, McKenna and Associates, a consultant retained by the village to review the developer’s proposal.

The entire project is expected to take between three to four months from the date of approval to the predicted completion date, according to the report.

Final approval of the development is contingent on whether the village approves R&R Global’s request for a tax incentive.

The tax incentive the company has requested, a Cook County Class 7B property tax abatement, is Kane is necessary in order to make the project financially viable, according to the report from Kane McKenna.

“We’re doing everything we can to make it happen,” said Shawn Hamilton, city manager of Lincolnwood.

The Economic Development Commission on Wednesday, June 24 moved to recommend provisional consent to the 7B tax abatement by a vote of 7-0-1, according to Tim Clarke, director of community development for the village of Lincolnwood.

The village board will consider the recommendation of the Economic Development Commission during the July 21 village board meeting.

Actual approvals of the tax abatement would be approved with the board’s approval of the development agreement, Clarke said.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Thursday, July 2

**Found Launches Live Music Every Thursday:** Every Thursday this summer, the Josh Rzepka jazz trio performs. 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-668-8945

**Artifice: fiber, fashion, and embellishment:** This exhibition features works from students at Columbia College Chicago and others in the Chicago area that are involved with contemporary fiber arts, garments and body decoration. 10 a.m. each day, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

**Let's Talk @ Lunch:** Participants bring their lunch, the YWCA Evanston/North Shore provides the beverage, facilitator and a topic, article or video clip as the catalyst for honest conversation. For information, contact Eileen Hogan Heineman, eheineman@ywca-northshore.org, phone Ext. 158 or go to the website. Noon Thursday, 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Family Focus Building, 2010 Dewey Ave., Evanston, free, 847-864-8445

**All My Relations: A Seneca History**
In collaboration with visual artist and dancer Rosy Simas (Seneca), this exhibit introduces the history of the Seneca culture through milestones in the lives of Simas and her relations. 11 a.m. Each day, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free-$5; $10-$12 for talk, 847-475-1030

**Native Haute Couture:** The year long exhibit celebrates the history of Native American high fashion from pre-contact to today. 10 a.m. Each day, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-1030

**The Last Supper: 600 Plates Illustrating Final Meals of Death Row Inmates:** 2 p.m. Each day, Block Museum of Art, Fisk Hall, Room 217, Northwestern University, Evanston, free, 847-491-4000

**Model Railroad Garden: Landmarks of America:** Train and garden enthusiasts, young and old, return year after year for this exhibition which features 18 G-scale trains chugging along 1,600 feet of track past replicas of American landmarks including the Statue of Liberty. 10 a.m. Each day, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glenco, $6 adults; $5 seniors; $4 children ages 3-12; under 3, free, 847-835-5440

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**Butterflies & Blooms:** The garden's summer-long exhibit featuring hundreds of butterflies and the flowers they reside on. 10 a.m. Each day, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glenco, Adults $6; seniors $5; children (3-12) $4; children (2 and under) free, 847-835-5440

**Hot Summer Nights:** Local bands are joined by professional dance instructors to provide visitors with easy-to-understand mini-dance-lessons corresponding to the music genre of the evening. For a schedule of performers, visit chicagobotanic.org. 6 p.m. Thursday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glenco, free, 847-835-5440

**Doubt: A Parable:** Writers Theatre presents John Patrick Shanley's play about a progressive pastor whose conduct is questioned by a school principal. 8 p.m. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Glenco Union Church, 263 Park Ave., Glenco, $35-$70, 847-424-6000

**Never The Bridesmaid:** 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Oil Lamp Theater, 1723 Glenview Road, Glenview, $35, 847-834-0738

**Book Bites: Reading Social:** "Amazing Women: Jane Addams": 10 a.m., Tuesday, Foster Dance Studios, 915 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, $5-$10, 847-474-4943

**Shark Week:** Kids in grades 1-5 to sink their teeth into shark games, trivia, challenges and videos. Registration is required and preference is given to Glenview Library cardholders. Register at glenvypl.org/register, call Ext. 7900, or the Youth Services Desk. 3 p.m. & 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-728-0692

**Story Walk:** Get outside and enjoy reading the children's book "Pete the Cat and the New Guy" while taking a journey along the train in Little Bear Garden. 8 a.m. Each day, Gallery Park, 2001 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

**Chagall for children:** This highly-interactive exhibit features hands-on activities and audio descriptions of each of Marc Chagall's works specifically appropriate for children ages 2-12. Kohl Children's Museum, 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, $11-$10, 847-832-6600

**Everybody Move!: 8-Week Session for ages birth-2 years with caregiver. Registration required. Celeste Cifala Roy, from Evanston's early childhood movement and music program Everybody Move!, has planned an hour of activities. 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-9790

**Lincouncil Summer Concert Series:** Free kids' activities, including bingo and face painting start at 6 p.m. and the live music follows at 7 p.m. Thursday, Proesel Park, 7055 Kostner Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-965-4220

**The American Legion, Post 134 seeks volunteers:** Raise funds for Poppy Days to help veterans. For more information, call Ken Trumbull at 847-663-0593. 6 a.m. Each day, The American Legion Post 134, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-1200

**Save A Star's Drug Disposal Program:** Save A Star Drug Disposal Program box is still in the lobby of the Niles Police Department, 7000 W Touhy Ave., Niles, IL. Accepted are: prescription medications (including controlled substances), all over-the-counter and pet medications, vitamins, liquids and creams. Call 847-579-1300 Ext. 146. 9 a.m. Each day, Niles Police Department, 7000 West Touhy Ave., Niles, free

**Glenview Theatre Guild's "The Music Man: 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Glenbrook South High School, 4000 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, $20-$40, 847-604-9477

**Gentle Yoga:** Gentle Yoga returns to the library in the Pollack room. Admission on first-come, first-served basis. 10:30 a.m. Friday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

**Share The Warmth:** Volunteers wanted. Join a group of warm, friendly, supportive men and women to prepare one-of-a-kind fleece blankets for chemo patients. 9 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-293-6755

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**Niles Township School Supply Drive:** Niles Township is holding a school supplies drive to assist area children in need this coming school year. New supplies and monetary donations will be accepted. Additional information and detailed school supply lists can also be found online at school district websites in Skokie, Morton Grove, Lincolnwood, Niles and Glenview. 9 a.m. Thursday, Friday, Monday-Wednesday, Niles Township Government, 5255 Main St., Skokie, free, 847-727-9510

**2015 Blue Star Museums Participation:** Free admission is extended to all military personnel and their families through Labor Day in participation with Blue Star Museums. 10 a.m. Each day, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4835

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**Friday, July 3**

**Nia: Holistic dance fitness:** 11 a.m. Friday, Monday, Wednesday, Raydiant Day, 1400 Greenleaf St., Evanston, $11 drop-in. $80 unlimited class pass, 847-869-6477

**5Rhythms Dance:** Come explore the 5Rhythms Dance — a movement meditation to music. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Tuesday, Foster Dance Studios, 915 Foster St., Evanston, $15; $10 for students and seniors, 847-869-0250

**Glenview Theatre Guild's "The Music Man: 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Glenbrook South High School, 4000 W. Lake Ave., Glenview, $20-$40, 847-604-9477

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**Saturday, July 4**

**FUSE: Studio:** Drop in with friends to wire LEDs, compose a ringtone, build an amp, mix chemicals to make gel beads, navigate a robot obstacle course and more. For grades six to 12. Noon Saturday, Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8600

**Tibetan Buddhist Teaching & Empowerment:** 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, Heartwood Center, 1818 West Dempster St., Evanston, $50-$200

**Signature Entertainment Presents:**

**LOL Saturday:** Hosted by Tony Sculfield and Mark Simmons. 9 p.m. Saturday, Chicago's Home of Chicken & Waffles, 2424 W. Dempster St., Evanston, $15 adult advance; $20 at the door, 847-521-6434

**Garden Chef Series:** Top local chefs show how to prepare delicious meals using the freshest fruits, herbs and vegetables. The events take place in the Regenstein Fruit & Vegetable Garden's open-air kitchen. A complete schedule of chefs is available at chicagobotanic.org. 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

**Farmers market: Glenview:** 9 a.m. Saturday, Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, free, 847-657-1506

**Morton Grove Farmers Market:** 8 a.m. Saturday, Dempster Street and Georgiana Ave., 6210 Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-750-6436

**Park Ridge Farmers Market:** 7 a.m. Saturday, Park Ridge Farmers Market, 15 S. Prairie Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-318-5217

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**Sunday, July 5**

**Great American Songbook:** Join Steve Darnall, radio host/producer of "Those Were the Days" for an audio-visual look back at how radio helped shape the "Great American Songbook." 2 p.m. Sunday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

**Skokie Farmers Market:** 7:30 a.m. Sunday, Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St., Skokie, Free, 847-673-0500

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**Monday, July 6**

**Live Bluegrass, Roots and Folk:** Every Monday in the pub, The Mudflaps perform. 8 p.m. Monday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

**Carillon Concert Series:** Watch the lights illuminate Evening Island and enjoy a 45-minute musical performance of carillon bells. 7 p.m. Monday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

**Tech Talk:** Join this Internet user discussion group, a monthly Q&A for exploring websites, social media, online searching and the Library's electronic resources. 7 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Summer Storytime (ages 3-5):** Bask in the warmth of summer stories, songs and activities. Parents welcome. Registration is required and preference is given to Glenview Library cardholders. Register at the website, Ext. 7900, or the Youth Services Desk 10 a.m. Monday, 11 a.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Potts & Pans Steel Drum Band and Live Music:** Enjoy live music with Caribbean flavor and distinct sounds of the steel pan drum. Registration is required and preference is given to Glenview Library cardholders. Register at the website, Ext. 7900 or the Youth Services Desk 7 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Page Turners:** The latest selection is "Burial Rites" by Hannah Kent. Book selections are available at the Reader Services Desk one month prior to meetings. 1 p.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**hoopla, MyMediaMall and Zinio Individual Appointments:** Meet with trained library staff for a 45-minute one-on-one session and learn how to download books, audio books, magazines, movies, TV shows or music to your portable device. 10 a.m. Monday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

**Yarn Gang:** Kids in grades one and up are invited to try their hand at knitting, crocheting or other yarn crafts. 4 p.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Turn to Calendar, Next Page
Wednesday, July 8

Bensenville French Market: 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Bensenville Village Hall, 12 South Center St., Bensenville, free

Summer program to begin at Des Plaines History Center: The program is designed for children, ages 5-12, with an adult. For information call or visit the website. 1 p.m. Wednesday, Des Plaines History Center, 781 Pearson St., Des Plaines, $3; $2 with a member, 847-391-5399

Jackman Park Summer Concert Series: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jackman Park, 1930 Prairie St., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

TedxLincolnwood Library: Watch a screening of TED Talks by experts and innovators in the field of music and then join the conversation: How does music move you? Registration required. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Civic Center Book Talk: Summer Reads: This book talk held at the American Legion Memorial Civic Center in Morton Grove, 1 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove American Legion Civic Center, 6140 Dempster St., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-9503

Northbrook Farmers Market: 7 a.m. Wednesday, Cherry Lane and Meadow Road, Northbrook, free

Have an event to submit? Go to chicagotribune.com/calendar

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Lincoln Park ‘Zoo-ologie’ raises $200,000

The Event: It was a wild and food-filled night for more than 1,000 guests of the Lincoln Park Zoo’s annual benefit, Zoo-ologie. Hosted each year by the Auxiliary Board, the posh event took over the grounds of the beloved Chicago landmark welcoming 23 restaurants and a smorgasbord of gourmet delights on May 9.

Founded in 1868, the 35-acre LPZ situated in Chicago’s Lincoln Park is one of the oldest zoos in the U.S., and the only such institution privately-managed and free to the public 365 each year.

Cause Celebre: “It’s a great cause and a great resource,” said Jennifer Statler of Chicago, vice president of the Auxiliary Board. “Families could come here from all over the city and not worry about spending money.”

Stressing the zoo’s significance, board member Jacob Ringer of Evanston, added: “Beyond when you run through and see the zoo, there is amazing science that happens here.”

Specifically, Lincoln Park Zoo boasts one of the largest zoo-based conservation and science programs in the country. These programs include the great ape conservation, protecting wild ecosystems, planning sustainable populations, understanding animal behaviors, enhancing animal health and helping species recover from their brushes with extinction. Zoo scientists combine expertise in a range of disciplines to identify threats to wildlife populations and develop strategies to ensure their continued existence.

“Part of the benefits of tonight go to keeping the zoo free 365 days of the year,” added Christine Sears originally of Glenco, event co-chairman. “This is one of the only free zoos in the country and in the world. It’s very unique to Chicago and very unique to the world.”

Bottom Line: The event raised nearly $200,000 dollars. More information at lpzoo.org
'Huddle Up for Mental Illness' raises $150,000

Benefiting: National Alliance on Mental Illness - Cook County North Suburban

Special guests: Sheriff Tom Dart and Brandon Marshall, former Chicago Bear

Location: Soldier Field, Chicago

Attended: 250

Date: May 16

Raised: $150,000+

Website: www.namiccns.org

Brandon Marshall and Mary Giliberti, NAMI national executive director, in the Chicago Bears locker room.

Chris Pawlowski of Northbrook (from left), Nancy Carstedt, NAMI CCNS executive director, Mary Giliberti, NAMI national executive director, Teddi Galanis of Glenview, chairman and Sue Ock.

NAMI CCNS board member Julie Savastion of Park Ridge and guests.

Want to see your event in Trend? Debbie Hoppe, Trend editorial assistant, will send you guidelines. Email her at dhoppe@pioneerlocal.com.
Finding the one starts with you

I can't count the number of single people who have said things to me like, "It's hard to meet someone." "There are no good guys out there" or "I'm going to be alone forever." It kind of makes finding Mr. or Mrs. Right seem pretty hopeless, doesn't it?

So when a friend of mine told me she was seeing a "relationship coach," I was intrigued. I had plenty of questions. What does a relationship coach do? Help you set up your Match.com profile? Talk about where to meet single people? Tell you what to wear on a first date?

My friend's answer: none of the above. Her Chicago-based relationship coach, Sue DeSanto, LCSW, offers a 3- or 6-month program that helps single, divorced or widowed men and women embrace their gifts and talents and feel confident in sharing them with the world. In other words, according to DeSanto, being truly fulfilled in a romantic relationship starts with the person seeking, rather than the person being sought.

I sat down with DeSanto to learn more about how she helps facilitate relationship opportunities. The first thing I found out is that nine years ago, she herself went through the program she now shares with her clients.

"I got divorced 14 years ago with two small children at the time and found the dating world daunting and scary. I didn't know how to do it," said DeSanto, who holds a master's degree in social work and has been a practicing psychotherapist for 20 years.

DeSanto attended the California-based Relationship Coaching Institute founded by relationship guru David Steele. Crediting the program for her success in finding true love and getting remarried a few years later, DeSanto decided she wanted to become a relationship coach herself.

They make eye contact, they notice others, they have their head up," she said. "They're interested in the world in a social and relationship way instead of just work. They're more whole and open and they feel more hopeful and excited about living. That comes across to others." If you're sitting here reading this, thinking, "Hmm, maybe I should try this," here's my opinion: I know if I really felt fulfilled with dating and relationships, and if I had tried to meet someone for months and months and was unsuccessful, I'd start to look within, and it sounds exactly like what DeSanto helps people do.

Think about it. If you go out on 50 dates over a one-year period and none of them even remotely work out, don't you think it might have something to do with you?

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Customer floor by Pergo's response to issue

Dear Help Squad,

On April 4, 2011, we purchased 20 boxes of Pergo (Salem Oak) laminate flooring from Home Depot in Northlake. We hired a reputable installer from our area to put it in our kitchen. Within six months, we noticed small corners cracking off the boards. We asked the installer to come back and repair the damage, but some boards that were left from the original installation. They did so for a reasonable price. Within the next six months, we noticed new cracks that were getting progressively worse. We called Home Depot and they said we would have to contact Pergo and that it wasn't their responsibility. We did so by email. Pergo replied that Salem Oak had been discontinued and they could therefore do nothing about our problem.

Salem Oak had a 25-year guarantee. How can Pergo discontinue something that has a 25-year guarantee? We were extremely disappointed by their attitude. Pergo seemed to have an excellent reputation. What happened here?

Now we have actual holes in the surface of the planks. We are seniors and do not abuse the floor. My wife and I are on Social Security and cannot afford to replace the floor. Please help us if you can; friends and family are noticing how bad it looks.

Sincerely,

Saro, Elmwood Park

Help Squad started by calling Pergo customer service. Upon describing Saro's situation, we were told he had to file a claim with Home Depot. When we explained that Home Depot had directed Saro to Pergo, the customer service representative said retailers don't always know the process. This was a surprising response! When a retailer sells a product with a 25-year warranty, it seems the claims process should be a familiar one.

At this point, we began searching for a corporate representative to contact at Pergo. This proved a bit of a challenge, as no such individual was easily found via the Pergo website. However, once we learned through additional research that Pergo had been acquired by Mohawk Industries in 2013, we called Mohawk's corporate headquarters and asked to speak with a public relations representative. Within hours of leaving a message, we received a call back from Unilin Flooring Marketing Manager Amber Leigh Hartman (Unilin is Mohawk's laminate flooring division). Amber requested photos of the floor, receipts and installer information. Once received, she got Pergo's warranty and claims teams involved. They contacted Saro directly to gather additional information.

The next day, Hartman called to let Help Squad know that Pergo wanted to assist Saro with his situation.

"Though we don't think this is an issue of the flooring failing, we want to help [Saro] regardless of fault," Hartman said. "We want to make sure he has nothing but great things to say about Pergo. Unfortunately, we never received a claim over this or we would have been happy to work with him much sooner."

When Help Squad inquired as to whether Salem Oak had been discontinued due to a quality issue, Hartman responded that "Salem Oak was solely discontinued due to the design of the product. As trends change and technology for enhanced visuals improve, older products are discontinued as they're not in demand any longer."

The next day, we checked in with Saro, who was thrilled with the progress to that point. "I spoke with [a Pergo claims representative]. He said the damage shouldn't have happened, but it did. He said Pergo will replace all 400 square feet of our flooring. Home Depot will provide and install everything free of charge. We just have to pick something from their existing stock. We can't thank you enough."

Said Hartman via Pergo's official emailed statement: "The issue Saro identified is not a typical occurrence and should not be expected of Pergo products. Pergo has not received a claim from Saro or The Home Depot; however, had we been notified ... we would have been more than happy to assist ... just as we have done now. The cause of damage on Saro's floor is similar to damage caused by hard casters from furniture (based only on pictures provided, not a site inspection). We have offered to not only fully replace, but upgrade the product in Saro's home and have it installed for him, completely complimentary. Our team has also discussed with Saro our recommendations for modifications to reduce the stress on a floating floor, as well as the importance of proper care and maintenance. We hope our commitment to our customers is exemplified through our actions and service displayed in this experience."
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BY FRED PISCO | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN

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Dick, As a Grown-Up

By Charles Preston

Across
1. _fide
5. Contrary girl
9. Skywalker, e.g.
13. Playwright Bogosian
14. Dream Children ssayist
15. Music critic Downes
16. Micky+Maude actor
20. Friend of Pooh
21. Actor Tognazzi
22. To a science
23. _fi
24. Maintain
26. Breakfast delicacy
27. Fly catcher
28. Visualized
29. Geisha's accessory
30. Ms. Doe's nickname
31. Part of Hamlet
34. __Resartus: Carlyle work
35. Ford pardoned him
38. Covered with canvas
39. Convex moldings
40. Out-and-out
41. Uh-huh
42. Geographical seven
46. Educated

Down
1. Yogi and Dale
2. Camden Yards player
3. Actress Kidman
4. Umm expletive
5. Cumulate
6. Gucci or Ray
7. Periphery
8. Type of holly
9. Bump into
10. Yale
11. Aggressively pursues
12. Not idle
13. Summer mo.
14. Dream Children
15. Actor Tognazzi
16. Micki+Maude actor
17. Part of a bikini
18. Overpermissive
19. Gunpowder ingredient
25. Passed a bill
26. Displayed, as merchandise
27. Follower of Karl
29. Evergreen
30. Monopoly corner
32. Moonstruck actress
33. Small amount
34. _cone
35. Instructs again
36. Paging device
37. Top star, initially
38. Potato, for one
41. Over there
43. Refrigerant gas
44. Air-raid sirens, e.g.
45. Boil inside
47. See 9 Down
48. Badlands National Park sight
49. Give the boot
51. Windmill blade
52. Epiphany honorees
55. Cry's partner
56. Part of a bikini
57. 2001 computer

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The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no course to Plaintiff and in "AS IS' condition. The sale is further subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and Other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the real estate: Commonly known as 9715 WOODS DRIVE, UNIT 502, Skokie, IL to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 7670 AVENUE, Skokie, IL 60077, and thereupon for that purpose

35-5608.

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you should receive a notice of default if the property is to be sold in a foreclosure sale. The servicer or servicers, in order to gain entrance into our building and the foreclosure sale room, will submit to the Co. or the Co.'s employees as the case may be, a written request for admission, which must be accompanied by a valid driver's license, passport, or other photo identification issued by a government agency. You will have the right to be heard before the Co. or the Co.'s employees as the case may be, will be entitled to a hearing on any application for admission. If you are denied admission, you will be entitled to bring an action in court for a declaratory judgment or an injunction against the Co. or the Co.'s employees as the case may be, to the extent that they have discriminated against you because of your race, color, national origin, religion, sex, hand or disability, or other factor against which it is unlawful to discriminate.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT, PROBATE AND ADOPTION division, Case No. 03-085-008019.
NOTICE is hereby given that on May 20, 2015, the Board of Trustees of The Chicago Park District will hold a public hearing on the issuance of a Special Use Permit to permit the sale of certain items at the Streeterville Market Center, 6101 Capulina Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 60618. The hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom, 1212 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 60605. All interested persons are invited and urged to attend the hearing and to submit written comments to the District office.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE ISSUANCE OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT

The Board of Trustees of The Chicago Park District will hold a public hearing on May 20, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom, 1212 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 60605, to consider the issuance of a Special Use Permit to permit the sale of certain items at the Streeterville Market Center, 6101 Capulina Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

To place an ad, call 866-399-0537.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

U-HAUL STORAGE AUCTION 2015357077

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER THE SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, ILLINOIS REVISED STATUTES 110 ILCS 70/5-11.

Notice is hereby given that on July 30, 2015, the U-Haul Co. of North Shore Chicago will hold a public hearing to consider the issuance of a Special Use Permit to permit the sale of certain items at the Streeterville Market Center, 6101 Capulina Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. The hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom, 1212 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. All interested persons are invited and urged to attend the hearing and to submit written comments to the District office.

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Chicago Scenery: Lake Michigan at Dawn

SHOP NOW
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Household dangers and what to do
From formaldehyde to dust, threats to health loom where you live

BY DANIELLE BRAFF
Chicago Tribune

Soap may seem to be keeping germs at bay, but in many homes, it's doing harm. Surprisingly, there are items lurking in most homes that are unhealthy because they're old or contain harmful ingredients. The good news? For the most part, these things simply can be tossed to make the home healthier.

**Problem: Antibacterial soap with triclosan**

*Why it's harmful:* This was believed to be more effective than regular soap, but a 2013 Food and Drug Administration report found that long-term daily use of the active ingredient triclosan may have unanticipated hormonal effects and may lead to antibiotic resistance.

Make a healthy home: While the agency continues to collect additional information on antibacterial soaps and body washes, consumers should wash their hands with plain soap and water. If those aren't available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol, said Andrea Fisch, FDA spokeswoman.

**Problem: Older flooring**

*Why it's harmful:* Many people don't realize that older flooring can contain cancer-causing asbestos. Especially in homes built before 1980, asbestos was used in a variety of construction products ranging from vinyl floor tiles to cement, said Elizabeth Ward, senior vice president of Intramural Research with the American Cancer Society Inc. Asbestos, which is a mineral fiber, was added to numerous products to provide heat insulation and to make them resistant to fire, but breathing asbestos can increase your risk of lung cancer and mesothelioma.

Make a healthy home: If the flooring is in good condition and you don't need to touch it or bother it, you can leave it alone, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Asbestos in good condition won't release asbestos fibers, and there's no danger unless the fibers are released. But if it's damaged or if you're going to renovate your home, you need a professional to remove the asbestos. It's tricky because you can't tell if something contains asbestos by looking at it, so you should treat everything as if it contains asbestos or have a professional take a sample for analysis.

**Problem: Pressed wood**

*Why it's harmful:* Formaldehyde is released from the resin, which could be on paneling or veneers, said Dr. Albert Rizzo, senior medical adviser to the American Lung Association and section chief of pulmonary/critical care medicine with the Christiana Care Health System in Delaware. The average home has more than 25 parts per billion of formaldehyde in the air, and levels between 40 and 500 ppb can cause health issues, according to the California Air Resources Board, which said formaldehyde causes 115 cancer cases per million people because many homes have more than 200 ppb.

Make a healthy home: Newer pressed wood is the worst culprit. In older materials, the formaldehyde stops being released after it's been ventilated for a while. The time it takes varies depending on the degree of ventilation of the room and the size of the item. If you can't get rid of the pressed wood, try airing the room out as often as possible. You will know the air is improving if you feel better in it (you won't cough as much or feel stuffy, especially if you're susceptible to asthma or hay fever, Rizzo said).

**Problem: Contact lens case**

*Why it's harmful:* If you don't replace your contact lens case every six months, you increase your risk of microbial keratitis by more than five times, and poor lens case hygiene increases your risk by more than 6 percent, according to a 2012 study from Ophthalmology, the journal of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. "The problem with keratitis and also corneal ulcers are that they can affect your long-term vision," said Dr. Thomas Steinemann, clinical spokesman for the academy and an ophthalmologist at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland.

Make a healthy home: Because a dirty lens case is the primary risk factor for eye infections in contact lens wearers, Steinemann recommends changing the case at least every three months. Wash the case with disinfecting solution (not just saline), then air-dry it upside down daily. "It's important to note that even if you care for your lens case fastidiously, a film builds up on the surface of the case," Steinemann said. "It's called a biofilm, and it's a magnet for dirt and germs. If you don't change it out for a new one, you end up with this grime layer that puts you at risk of a potentially serious eye infection." He also said not to clean the case with water, which is not sterile and can also cause serious eye infection; that's the same reason you shouldn't shower or swim while wearing your lenses.

**Problem: Mascara**

*Why it's harmful:* Liquid makeup, including mascara, can harbor a lot of germs, Steinemann said. "If you think about it, each time you use mascara, you are brushing it and any germs on your lashes and also contaminating the brush even more with bacteria or viruses naturally present on your skin or eyelash hair," he said. "In fact, one of the primary functions of eyelashes is to keep debris and germs from entering your eye, so then plunging into a moist room-temperature environment, like a mascara tube, encourages bacterial growth."

Make a healthy home: Replace mascara every three months.

**Problem: Dust**

*Why it's harmful:* Indoor air quality is 25 to 100 times worse than it is outdoors, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. The average 1,500-square-foot house contains 40 pounds of dust.

Make a healthy home: You can't remove your air, but you can clean it. Philip Tierno, professor of microbiology and pathology at the New York University School of Medicine, suggested using a HEPA air filter to remove tiny materials in the micron range. Even a small portable HEPA filter for the bedroom will lessen the number of allergens that you're exposed to, he said. Tierno said to change the air filter once or twice a year or else it will prevent efficient airflow.

Danielle Braff is a freelancer.
PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

Fire-ant bites appear to relieve chronic nerve pain

BY JOE GRAEDON AND TEREISA GRAEDON

Q: I have chronic nerve pain that is never-ending in both legs. Walking helps me reduce the spasms in my legs. I was out for a walk and a fire ant bit my big toe. That hurt plenty, but 10 minutes later, the pain and spasm stopped in the leg that was bitten. There was no change in the leg that wasn't bitten. Could that bite actually have eased my pain?

A: Several years ago, we heard from another reader: “I had such unbearable hip pain that I had to be helped in and out of chairs.” After being bitten by fire ants, “I was sick and dizzy most of the day, but a miracle happened: My severe pain has gone.”

A visitor to our website offered this story: “I have had severe pain in two fingers on my left hand for several years. I got into a fire-ant nest in a bale of hay while feeding my horses and received about 20 stings before I got them off of me. The next morning, the pain in my left hand was gone, and so far, four days later, I still have no pain in that hand. I really hope there are some serious research studies being conducted somewhere on the pain-relief properties in fire-ant venom.”

Scientists are studying the molecular biology of fire-ant venom, but there don’t seem to be studies of its use to relieve pain. We caution that this is not a do-it-yourself project, since people can have terrible allergic reactions to the bites and go into shock. Some individuals have suffered seizures or heart failure as a reaction to fire-ant bites.

Q: Several doctors through the years have put me on different vitamins. I now take a daily multivitamin with minerals as well as vitamins E, D-3 and B-12. Is there a test that can show which vitamins I actually need?

A: There is no single test, but we agree that it is better to know whether you need additional vitamins than to take them willy-nilly. Your doctor can test for vitamin B-12 and vitamin D quite easily. If he or she suspects you are low in other nutrients, those tests can be run.

There also are companies that sell at-home or walk-in lab tests for a number of vitamins and minerals. The results may give you a better sense of which supplements might be beneficial.

Q: I have nail fungus on a thumb and both big toes. My doctor will not prescribe pills because of possible liver damage, so I would like anything that will get rid of the fungus. My thumbnail really looks bad when the polish is removed during a manicure.

The nurse said to try Vicks VapoRub. A friend recommended white vinegar or lime juice. I can't figure out how to get any of these under the nail. I've heard it might take six months to get rid of the fungus. Is there anything else that would work faster?

A: Getting rid of nail fungus is a slow process because the treated nail has to grow out healthy. This can take months.

There are many solutions you can use at home to discourage fungus, including Listerine and Pau d'Arco tea, as well as vinegar or Vicks. Lengthy soaking allows for nail penetration.

You will find directions for these home remedies in the Guide to Hair and Nail Care we are sending you. Anyone who would like a copy, please send $3 in check or money order with a long (No. 10), stamped (70 cents), self-addressed envelope to: Graedons' People's Pharmacy, No. H-31, P.O. Box 5202, Durham, NC 27717-2027. It also can be downloaded for $2 from our website: www.peoplespharmacy.com.

Be cautious with lime juice. Using it before sun exposure can lead to a severe sunburn.

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to their website.

How to decide on whether to medicate for ADHD

BY BONNIE BERKOWITZ

To medicate or not? This decision is stressful for parents who see a child struggling with ADHD but who worry about tampering with brain chemistry.

Websites offer wildly mixed messages about ADHD meds, studies show conflicting data about whether they work, and doctors don’t always agree. Some friends and relatives can’t imagine “how you could drug your child,” while others wonder why you would reject something that might help.

But clinicians who treat ADHD say the decision is often fairly straightforward.

“I recommend medication when something causes a child to be unable to thrive in his environment,” said Glen Elliott, the chief psychiatrist at the Children’s Health Council in Palo Alto, Calif., and author of “Medicating Your Mind: How to Know If Psychiatric Drugs Will Help or Hurt Your Child.”

Elliott is familiar with the dilemma parents face. “His son struggled with ADHD in high school and finally opted to use a stimulant occasionally in medical school.

Stimulants such as Ritalin, Adderall and Vyvanse are nearly always the first medication doctors try, Elliott said, because they have a long, solid safety record, they take effect within minutes and they leave the body within hours.

Experts differ, however, on whether people build up a tolerance for stimulants.

No drug has proved effective for executive function problems.

Some can be stolen or resold, which can lead to abuse.

Effects are short-term, in that none can cure ADHD.

Stimulants such as Ritalin, Adderall and Vyvanse are nearly always the first medication doctors try.

Mild symptoms, I am slower to recommend medications. I may first request environmental changes at school, or a different daily structure at school or at home,” he said. “Contrast that with an 11-year-old who is struggling greatly in class, having problems paying attention, getting distracted and becoming phobic about homework. That child is clearly on a different trajectory than the one I would be inclined to use. It would probably benefit from medication.”

(Willens and Elliott received personal funding from pharmaceutical companies in the past but do not do so now.)

Many ADHD groups and both major U.S. child psychiatry organizations (the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and the American Psychiatric Association) recommend medication for ADHD, usually in conjunction with therapy that teaches strategies to help with skills such as organization and time management.

Managing expectations is key, however, because no drug can cure ADHD. While some people with ADHD naturally become less symptomatic as their brain matures, Elliott said, about a third of people with ADHD will need treatment their entire lives.

Here are some pros and cons of ADHD medication, according to experts:

**Pros**

- In addition to being well-tolerated, approved by the Food and Drug Administration and easy to try out because they enter and exit the body quickly, stimulants are not addictive in the doses prescribed for ADHD.

- Stimulants can be effective even if taken only occasionally.

- Drugs may reduce some of the longer-term problems such as depression and substance abuse.

**Cons**

- Side effects range from mild such as irritability, sleep disruption, drowsiness and loss of appetite to serious (but rare) such as heart and liver problems and exacerbation of mental health issues.

- Clinicians disagree on whether people build up a tolerance for stimulants.

- No drug has proved effective for executive function problems.

- Some can be stolen or resold, which can lead to abuse.

- Effects are short-term, in that none can cure ADHD.
Virtual reality may become health care tool

3-D images can reveal potential medical hazards

BY MARK JOHNSON
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

MADISON, Wis. — The room rotates. You stand there, shelves, walls, furniture slowly circling before your eyes. A bed decorated with throw pillows passes. The kitchen approaches. A microwave juts out from a shelf close enough to touch, a refrigerator at your back.

A doorway inches closer until you dust through and the frame recedes, and you are in another room, tempted to reach out and touch the ghostly furniture.

The whole thing triggers an uneasy sensation — that of moving, walking through rooms, up and down stairs, turning corners and following corridors, when all the while your arms and legs remain perfectly still.

“If we close the door and tell you to walk, you will lose track of where the door is almost instantly,” said Kevin Ponto, an assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s School of Human Ecology.

When Ponto speaks, you remember you’re wearing something called “active stereo glasses” that allow you to see in 3-D. The room does not represent actual reality but virtual reality. Although your eyes see in all directions, taking in the detailed image of a meticulously laid-out house, you remember the place you walked into a few minutes ago is nothing more than a white box: 9 feet tall by 9 feet wide by 9 feet long.

The room inside the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery is four walls, a ceiling and floor onto which images have been projected to form a CAVE, or cave automatic virtual environment.

But the images on all sides are not of some idealized version of a home. They come from someone’s actual home, complete with clutter and dust on the shelves. The mind-blowing detail comes from 1 billion pieces of data compiled over several days by a special laser camera that scans every room in a house.

Why go to such trouble? Research into home health care.

“It’s becoming more and more critical that people are able to take care of themselves at home,” said Gail Casper, senior scientist at the UW School of Nursing and director of what is known as the vizHOME project. “We, as health-care providers, sometimes set people up to not be optimally successful because we don’t know what they encounter at home.”

Health-care researchers are addressing this gap in knowledge by developing detailed models of the places we live.

Virtual homes are becoming a research tool for examining where people keep their medications and how they remind themselves to take them. Some people organize medications sequentially in a line of bottles. Others keep the pill bottles in a cluster in the middle of a table. In some homes, a calendar on the wall has made one room the hub for a family’s medical needs.

Casper said academic researchers aren’t the only people using virtual-reality spaces. Users now include the military, the oil industry, high-end design firms and companies including Procter & Gamble, which is said to have created a virtual-reality shopping market (Procter & Gamble declined to discuss the topic).

Since launching the virtual home project two years ago with about $2.3 million in federal money from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, researchers at the Wisconsin Institutes of Discovery have scanned 20 homes across the state. They researchers figured 20 homes would provide the study with the necessary diversity.

“It was cool but also odd,” said Nancy Alar, a former computer programmer and information technology manager, who had her virtual home in Cottage Grove scanned. “They were so solicitous. We were treated like we were royalty. They were so careful to not be intrusive.”

Alar found out about the project because she’d organized a trip for a group of families with autistic children to Wisconsin Institutes of Discovery in December 2013. While there, she visited the virtual home and was fascinated.

She spoke with Casper about the possibility of having her own home scanned.

Alar, a former computer programmer and information technology manager, enjoys science, as does her husband.

“Part of me wanted to say, I’m a scientist, too, and roll up my sleeves and work with them on this project,” she said.

Researchers go to great lengths to protect the confidentiality of the people whose homes are scanned. They advise residents to move family photos, awards, certificates and other identifying materials, though their equipment also allows them to digitally erase such things after scanning.

Alar said the scanning was done with a camera like no camera she’d ever seen before. It sat in the middle of a room and rotated very slowly like the hand of a clock. Alar and her family had to be outside each room while it was being scanned. They also had to keep the family’s two dogs and one cat outside the room.

The work took place over the course of three days. Alar also sat for an interview related to medications and other aspects of home health care.

“They asked really detailed questions,” she said. “They wanted to know exactly how I put pills in my pill box and how I took them out.”

During her visit to the Wisconsin Institutes of Discovery, Alar found the vizHOME exhibit “absolutely fascinating.”

“It’s a 10-foot-by-10-foot plain box,” she said. “Then you put the goggles on and you weren’t in the box anymore, you were in this apartment.”
DOGGIE BAG HACKS

Turn these bland restaurant leftovers into something new and delicious

BY BILL DALEY
Tribune Newspapers

Leftovers don't have to look or taste like leftovers anymore, listlessly plopped from doggie bag to plate with possibly a quick zap in the microwave. Smartly use those leftovers, whether from restaurant meals or takeout chow, to create something new and delicious. In so doing, you'll even be making your country proud.

You need that people who eat out more often, especially fast food, are more likely to be overweight or obese, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's ChooseMyPlate.gov program urges, among other suggestions, that one avoid oversize portions. "Take half of your meal," the program's website urges.

And you'll be helping chip away at a growing food problem. The idea of transforming food that would otherwise go to waste into something delicious has been in the news of late.

The conversation has been in the news of late. "People waste food all the time," says Jacques Pepin, the Madison, Conn.-based star chef, cookbook author and television cooking show host who has spent over a long career has turned kitchen frugality into a delicious art. "There's always something you can do with it."

Take the recipe for rice pudding from his newest book, slated for publication in October, "Jacques Pepin Heart & Soul in the Kitchen" (Rux Martin/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $25). It's made with leftover Chinese restaurant rice. And a pudding is just one thing you can do; Pepin also uses rice in stir-fries and in soup. It's that kind of open-minded use of leftovers that can make for some eye-opening moments in the kitchen.

"Rarely do I make a dish where I don't look at it and think of it as a leftover," Pepin says, noting that too many people look once and don't know what to do. "People waste food all the time."

Here are some ideas, so you don't have to waste leftovers anymore.

Fried chicken: Turn cold pieces of fast-food fried chicken into a salad. Kevin Pang, my colleague, offers this: Cube the chicken, toss with mayonnaise, preferably the Japanese Kewpie brand, Sriracha sauce and fresh lime juice. Wing the proportions to suit your taste. Add cubes of green apple, peeled or unpeeled, and 1-inch pieces of fresh green onion.

Italian sausage, kielbasa, hot dogs: Slice into rounds, then arrange atop a frozen pizza and bake; drop into an escarole soup, a Louisiana jambalaya, a New England-style corn chowder or a mound of sauerkraut.

Gyro or shawarma meat: Turn those slices into a salad, based on one from Australian chef Matt Wilkinson in his new cookbook, "Mr. Wilkinson's Well-Dressed Salads" (Black Dog & Leventhal, $27.95). He calls for leftover roast leg of lamb, but gyro leftovers work well too. For Wilkinson's salad, mix together 1 large grated carrot, torn pieces of fresh mint, parsley and cilantro leaves; a little toasted cashew and raisins. Toss with "a splash of good white wine vinegar and some plain yogurt," he says. Serve the salad over the meat slices, accompanied by grilled bread.

Pepper steak: Slice meat thinly, re-heat in a skillet or microwave, stuff into a split baguette or sandwich roll lined with lettuce. Garnish with cilantro sprigs, chopped onion and Sriracha sauce.

Rice: Make Pepin's rice pudding, adapted from his upcoming book: Heat 2 cups cooked white rice and 3 1/2 cups milk to a boil in a saucepan, stirring occasionally. Boil, 1-2 minutes. Cool before using. Also, you can stir rice into a large quantity of water, and make the rice porridge known as congee; garnish with cilantro sprigs, diced chiles, leftover roast chicken or pork. Or make fried rice. Stir-fry with beaten egg, minced green onion and garlic, salt and some leftover cooked vegetables — peas, chopped red or green pepper, diced carrots.

Tortilla chips: Make these chilaquiles, adapted from Russ Parsons' recipe: Stir 8 beaten eggs into some chopped onion and poblanos that you sauteed. Don't stir. After eggs begin to set, stir in 2 cups roughly broken up tortilla chips. Season with salt. Once eggs are nearly set, stir in some grated cheese (Cotija, jack, Chihuahua). Finish cooking; serve with more cheese, topped with chopped cilantro, salsa, sour cream.

Vegetables: Chop up cooked vegetables, suggests Wilkinson, and turn them into croquettes or vegetable hash or mix with cheese, and make a savory pie topping. What's a croquette? Think of it kinda like a meatball. Bind finely chopped vegetables with beaten egg, a little milk, maybe some flour, and form into balls. Roll the balls in breadcrumbs and fry until golden. Also: Puree chopped cooked vegetables into a sauce base of vegetable or chicken stock, with or without cream or milk; fold into a frittata or omelet; toss into your own homemade fried rice.

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Goat-cheese cheesecake

Prep: 45 minutes Bake: 1 hour plus cooling time Makes: 12 servings

**For pan:**
- Melted butter
- Sugar

**For crust:**
- 7 ounces speculoos cookies (such as Biscoff) or graham crackers
- 1/2 stick (4 tablespoons) butter
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

**For filling:**
- 11 ounces soft plain goat cheese
- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 8 ounces creme fraiche
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

**1 Prep:** Brush an 8-inch springform pan with melted butter. Line the bottom with a round of parchment paper. Sugar the buttered sides of the pan, tapping excess out.

**2 Crisp:** Pile crust ingredients into the food processor; pulse to dampen crumbs. Dump crumbs into the prepared pan, and press firmly into the bottom. Bake at 350 degrees until crisp and fragrant, 20-22 minutes.

**3 Secure:** Lower the oven temperature to 325 degrees. To prevent leaks later, set the springform into a 9-inch cake pan or wrap the outside of the springform in 3 layers of foil. Meanwhile, heat a kettle of water.

**4 Swirl:** Wipe out food processor. Measure in filling ingredients and swirl completely smooth. Pour filling over baked crust. Rap the pan to release bubbles.

**5 Bake:** Set cake pan (holding the springform pan) or wrapped springform pan into a roasting pan and slide the roasting pan into the oven. Carefully pour hot water into the roasting pan until water comes halfway up the sides of the cake or springform pan. This hot-water bath will ensure a creamy cheesecake. Bake until barely wiggly in the center, about 1 hour.

**6 Cool:** Turn off oven, prop open the oven door, and let cake cool, still in its bath, 1 hour. Pull out cake, discard foil, chill. Release sides of the pan. Slice and savour.

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Hummus plate with carrots

Prep: 45 minutes Cook: 20 minutes Makes: 4 servings

**Carrots:**
- 2 bunches small carrots (about 2 pounds), greens attached
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/4 teaspoon each: salt, pepper
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 4 teaspoons toasted sunflower seeds
- 2 teaspoons extra-virgin olive oil

**Hummus:**
- 1 small clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 can (15 ounces) no-salt-added chickpeas, drained, rinsed
- 2 tablespoons tahini
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cumin
- 3 tablespoons water

For the carrots, heat the oven to 450 degrees. Cut the greens off the carrots, leaving about 1 inch of stem attached. Reserve about 1/4 cup of the greens, coarsely chop, for a garnish.

2 Peel the carrots; cut any large ones in half lengthwise. Place the carrots on a baking sheet. Drizzle with the olive oil; sprinkle with cumin, salt and pepper. Toss to coat evenly. Roast until tender-firm and a little shiny, about 20 minutes. Let the carrots cool slightly, then drizzle with the lemon juice.

3 Meanwhile, for the hummus, mash together the garlic and salt with the flat side of a knife to form a coarse paste. Transfer it to a food processor; add the chickpeas, tahini, lemon juice, olive oil, cumin and water; puree until smooth.

4 Serve the hummus topped with the carrots, then sprinkled with sunflower seeds and drizzled with olive oil. Garnish with the reserved greens.

Nutrition Information per serving: 310 calories, 15 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 0 mg cholesterol, 37 g carbohydrates, 9 g protein, 590 mg sodium, 10 g fiber
Roasted potato-pecan salad

Adapted from "The Spiralized Kitchen" by Leslie Bilderback.

Toast: Spread 2 cups pecan pieces on a baking sheet in a single layer. Roast in a preheated 375-degree oven until toasty and fragrant, about 10 minutes. Pour off baking sheet; cool.

Roast: Spiralize 2 large russet potatoes and 1 large yellow onion using the straight blade to create flat, spiral ribbons. Toss spirals with 2 tablespoons olive oil in a large bowl. Spread on a baking sheet in an even layer. Roast until golden brown and tender, about 15 minutes. Cool to room temperature.

Dress: Mince 1 clove garlic with 1 teaspoon salt to create a paste; place in a large bowl with 1/2 cup mayonnaise, zest and juice of 1 lemon, and 1 teaspoon dried herbes de Provence or dried thyme; stir to combine. Add pecans then roasted vegetables. Toss to coat evenly. Serve chilled or at room temperature.

Makes: 4 large servings.
Shelf Life

By Judy Hervdejs
 Tribune Newspapers

Meatballs made easy

We love meatballs, but they're time consuming to make. To the rescue: Gourmet Chicken Meatballs from The Original Brat Hans (www.theoriginalbrat hans.com). The refrigerated line offers four flavors: Buffalo-Style, Pineapple-Teriyaki, Pesto Parmesan and Sweet Asian. The Sweet Asian, with its scallions and soy sauce, challenged the Pesto Parmesan for first place in our opinion. A short microwave (or oven) visit delivered tasty, juicy roughly 1 ½-inch bites. A 12-ounce package is $5.99. At Whole Foods Market (www.wholefoodsmarket.com).

Up your grill game

Smoked sausages get an extra kick with a few flavorful additions. Consider this pair from the Johnsonville line of smoked sausages: Jalapeno Cheddar and Cheddar Beer. There's a hint of brew in the beer version, but it's the bits of jalapeno and cheese in the hefty links that won us over. Cooked on the grill or in the stove or microwave, they are bound to get attention. A 14-ounce package: $4.49. A store locator: www.johnsonville.com.

Charmer for gardeners

Cook-gardener-illustrator Heather Hardison piles all her passions into the charming "Homegrown: Illustrated Bites From Your Garden to Your Table" (Stewart, Tabori & Chang, $16.95). You need not be an artist to enjoy her clever illustrations, nor a gardener or master cook to enjoy her "produce-centric" recipes (blueberry cake, beet and fennel salad, etc.). Her mantra: "Gardening and home cooking foster a mindfulness and calm that we all could use." At bookstores nationwide.

Like grandpa drank

By Jim Brucker
 Tribune Newspapers

Let's go back in time, a generation or two, and have a drink.

In 1963, Glenfiddich introduced international drinkers to single malt whiskey with its Straight Malt. Before then, the only Scotch whiskies marketed in the United States were blends - combinations of different whiskies, some derived from wheat or corn, from different Scottish distilleries, portraying a lighter and balanced, yet somewhat shallow flavor profile.

A single malt, by contrast, is a whiskey from a single distillery, derived from malted barley only, and presents a much more nuanced tasting experience, definitive of that distillery.

"Think of it as the difference between a soloist and an orchestra; both (blends and single malts) are beautiful in their own right, but each offers a different expression of their art," says Brian Kinsman, Glenfiddich malt master.

Kinsman became the sixth malt master in Glenfiddich's 129-year, family-owned history, apprenticing with veteran David Stewart for eight years before taking on the position in 2009. Recently, he mined the Glenfiddich inlay's rare Old Highland Malt, a re-creation of a 1907 Glen Mhor whiskey excavated 100 years after being abandoned at the Ernest Shackleton Antarctic expedition site, and whisky from the Lost Distillery Co., which reproduces the flavor profiles of long-shuttered Scottish distilleries.

At $100, The Original is less expensive than buying a vintage bottle and worth the time trip.

As with its 1963 forebear, the limited Glenfiddich The Original is 40 percent alcohol and carries no age statement.

Jim Brucker is a freelance writer.
Spark a celebration
Enjoy this Fourth of July with fireworks, festivals

To help celebrate Independence Day, here is a guide to area fireworks and other festivities from parades and festivals to charity walks and fairs.

Arlington Heights
Fireworks: dusk July 4
Arlington International Park, 2200 W. Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights. Admission is $18 for adults and $4 for children. In addition to races and fireworks, there will be food vendors, a live band and family activities.

Des Plaines
No fireworks
The Des Plaines 2015 Independence Day Parade will begin at 10 a.m. July 4 at the intersection of Center and Wicke streets, proceeding north on Center to Prairie Avenue, east on Prairie and ending at Prairie and Pearson streets.

Evanston
Fireworks: 9:20 p.m. July 4
Best viewing Centennial Park, lakefront between Church and University Place; and Dawes Park, lakefront between Church and Dempster. www.cityofevanston.org.
Festivities include a Fourth of July Kids Fun Run (12:30 p.m. registration, 12:45 p.m. start) for ages 12 and younger starting at Central and McDaniel; a parade (2 to 4:30 p.m.) on Central Street to Ryan Field; and a performance by the Palatine Concert Band (7:30 to 9:15 p.m. at Dawes Park).

Glenview
Fireworks: Dusk July 4
Parade kicks off at 11:35 a.m. on Harlem Avenue north of Glenview Road and travels south on Harlem across Glenview Road and then west on Central Avenue to Johns Park. North Shore Concert Band performs pre-fireworks at 7 p.m.

Morton Grove
Fireworks: 9:45 p.m. July 4
Harrer Park, 6250 Dempster St. Free. 847-965-1200.
Morton Grove Days takes place July 2-4 and includes carnival rides, a beer garden, live entertainment, food, children's activities and a parade, scheduled for 2 p.m. July 4.

Park Ridge
Fireworks: 9:30 p.m. July 3
In addition to fireworks, an interactive dance party with a DJ will take place from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and a live band begins playing at 8 p.m.

Skokie
Fireworks: dusk July 4
Niles West High School, 5701 W. Oakton St. 847-674-1500, www.skokieparks.org/special-events
Skokie’s Fourth of July parade kicks off at noon in downtown Skokie and features marching bands, tumbler, live animals, drill teams, clowns, vintage automobiles and much more. At 5 p.m., the festivities move to Niles West High School, 5701 Oakton St, where there will be food vendors, drinks and live bands to close out the day of celebration.

Wilmette
Fireworks: 9:30 p.m. July 3
Beginning at 4 p.m., the day also includes games, rides, live music, roving entertainers and a Tastefest. A concert of patriotic music (7 p.m.) by the Palatine Concert Band takes place in the Wallace Bowl. It will be preceded by a sneak preview Starlight Theatre’s musical feature, “Once Upon A Mattress.” The Dooley Brothers perform post-fireworks (10:45 p.m.).

Along with fireworks, many communities will also offer parades, fests and games to celebrate the Fourth of July.
Harvest summer fun at area berry picking farms

BY ANNIE ALLEMAN
Beacon-News

Early July is the perfect time to indulge in fresh, ripe berries. Strawberries and blueberries are in their prime, and blackberries and raspberries will soon see their days in the sun as well.

Many local farmers allow folks to pick their own berries, which is always a fun family activity, and makes for a great day trip.

Here's a guide to area berry farms and orchards.

Before you go out and pick berries, make sure you check beforehand to ensure the farm's supply, along with any rules and regulations.

Grace Farm Studios: 2719 Franklinville Road, Woodstock. 815-790-8895; Gracefarmstudios.com. Email owney@gracefarmstudios.com. Hours 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday; closed Sunday and Monday. This is a small, you-pick raspberry farm with six varieties of organically grown red, two varieties of purple, four varieties of black and one variety of yellow raspberries. In September, they have aronia berries at $15 a pound. Grace Farm also produces and markets Icelandic wool and yarns from a small flock of Icelandic sheep. Raspberry picking continues through the first frost. Cost is $5 per pint for you-pick; $6 per pint for pre-picked; $48 per gallon. Cash, check, Visa and MasterCard accepted.

Cody's Farm: 19502 River Road, Marengo. 815-568-7976. E-mail: codysfarmfreshvegetables@yahoo.com. Cody's Farm. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily. The farm's annual Strawberry Festival will be held in June — watch the Farm's website and Facebook page for updates. Credit cards accepted.

Guelde Strawberries: 4779 E. 1525th Road, Earlville. 815-228-9603; gueldestrwbberries.com. Hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. daily, berry supply and weather permitting. This farm has several types of strawberries available, typically beginning in early June. The cost is $1.75 per pound for pick-your-own. They provide quart boxes and cardboard flat boxes. Cash or check only.

Heider's Berry Farm: 1106 N. Queen Anne Road, Woodstock. 815-338-0300; Heidersberryfarm.com. Hours: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. daily as long as berries are available. Strawberries go from mid-June to July and from September to the first frost. Raspberries are available in July and September until the first frost. Cherries are available the first two weeks in July. Call ahead for each day's conditions and availability. Cash and check only.

Knutson's Country Harvest: 13550 Townhouse Road, Newark. 815-695-5905 or 815-557-4630, or email info@knutsonsharvest.com; Knutsonsharvest.com. Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday and 1-4 p.m. Sunday until the first hard frost. Strawberries available for you-pick in mid-June through September, with blueberries and black raspberries starting in early July and blackberries in August. Peaches and apples are ready in late July and pears are ready in late August. Cash, check, credit
Take time to be a dad today.

Find summer flavors picking berries throughout the region

Berries, from Previous Page


Stade's Farm and Market: 3709 W. Miller Road, McHenry. 815-675-6396; stadesfarmandmarket.com. During your-pick season, the farm is open from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. daily. Strawberry season generally begins June 15 and runs about three or four weeks, depending on supply and weather. The Farmtractions Theme Park will be open for families to enjoy while at the farm; cost is $8-$15. Even after the official end of strawberry picking season, the theme park will remain open weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The cost for you pick is $3 for a 1-quart basket, $6 for a 2-quart basket, $11 for a 4-quart basket, $10 each for five or more 4-quart baskets and $20 for a tray that holds up to 15 pounds. Note: There is a $3 minimum purchase per person required to enter the strawberry patch. Baskets are included in the price. You can only pick into Stade's containers. Cash and Visa/MasterCard are accepted.

Tammen Treeberry Farm: 37131 Essex Road, Wilmington. 815-458-6264; tammenTreeberryfarm.net. Hours are 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday; closed Sundays. About 50 acres of blueberries are grown. The blueberry season usually begins around mid-July and runs for three or four weeks. In recent years, large crowds have forced the orchard to close for a few days at a time to grow more berries. Blueberries are priced per pound.

This farm accepts cash, check, all major credit and debit cards. There are restrooms and a picnic area on-site.

Up Berries: 30683 Lanan Road, Kingston. Upberries.com. Hours are 8 a.m. to sunset daily beginning in mid-July (check the website or Facebook for exact dates) and picking red raspberries and blackberries goes to the first frost. There are some blueberries as well. There is a self-serve honor system in place at this orchard; there is no cashier on site. Cost is $3 per pint of raspberries (tax included); cash or check only.

Johnson's Farm Produce: 8960 E. Ridge Road, Hobart, Ind. 219-962-1383; johnsonsfarmproduce.com. Hours are 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Johnson's Farm offers pick your own strawberries, raspberries, blueberries and blackberries. Mark your calendar for the Strawberry Madness Festival June 13-14 and Blueberry Madness July 18 (date is approximate; check website closer to the event).

State Line Blueberries: Farm No. 1, 9987 N. Frontage Road, Michigan City, Ind. 219-874-7721; stateLineBlueberries.com. See website for hours. This farm grows nine varieties of blueberries, allowing them to stay open longer in the season. Check the website for opening dates.

Eenigenburg's Blueberries: 6721 W. State Road 10, DeMotte, Ind. 219-987-2957; Demotteblueberries.com. Hours: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. This family-run farm contains 13 varieties of blueberries that are generally available between July 5 and Aug. 10 each year. Check the website closer to July for opening dates and prices. No credit cards accepted.

Evers' Farm: 13340 N. 700 West, DeMotte, Ind. 219-863-6082; Eversblueberries.com. Hours are 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday. This family has 10 acres of blackberries available for picking. Check back in late June for exact opening dates and prices.

Peterich's U-Pick Raspberry Farm: 1371 Old Porter Road, Chesterton, Ind. 219-926-6410; IndianaDunes.com/eat-play-shop/shopping/peterichs-u-pick-raspberry-farm. Raspberries available between August and October.
Pony rides will be a part of this year's Independence Day celebration in Niles.

Parade, pony rides mark Fourth in Niles

BY MYRNA PETLICK
Pioneer Press

The Village of Niles' festive celebration of Independence Day begins with a parade at 9 a.m., July 4, starting at Notre Dame College Prep, 7655 Dempster St. The parade winds its way from Ozark Avenue to Main Street, then down Harlem Avenue to Monroe Street, ending at Greenman Heights Park, 8255 N. Oke to Ave. That's where the Niles Park District takes over, offering family fun from 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.

"We have a band—this year it's R-Gang. They were here last year and the year before," said Julie Jentel, director of marketing for the park district. "We have free hot dogs. There's carnival games for the kids, a raffle, pony rides, a bounce house and some water features."

The event is open to residents and non-residents, and there will be no charge for the food or the activities.

"Everyone is welcome," Jentel said. "It's our way of giving back to the community. We just hope for a beautiful day."

For details, call (847) 967-6633 or go to www.niles-parks.org.

All fired up

For the first time, the Skokie 4th of July Parade will have a Grand Marshal, Christian Stolte, who co-stars in "Chicago Fire" on NBC. The parade begins at noon on July 4 at Oakton Community College, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., and ends at Oakton Park, 4701 Oakton St.

For details, go to www.skokie4th.org.

Full day of fun on Fourth

Evanston's day-long celebration of the Fourth of July begins with Playground Sports at nine locations, 9 a.m. to noon. A half-mile 4th of July Kids Fun Run starts at 12:45 p.m. from Central Street and McDaniel Avenue. The annual parade down Central Street runs from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The celebration continues with a performance by the Palatine Concert Band at Dawes Park at 7:30 p.m., followed by Lakefront fireworks.

For details, call (847) 448-4311 or go to www.cityofevanston.org.

Kids will dig this

Dinosaur-loving children are invited to "Get Pop-Cultured: Magic Tree House—Dinosaurs Before Dark," starting at 10 a.m. July 4 at the Old Orchard Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. There will be activities, giveaways and a special offer.

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

Pop star

Kids will be dancing when Jeanie B! performs from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. July 9 as part of the Little Bearfoot Entertainment Series at Gallery Park Amphitheater, 2500 Chestnut Ave., Glenview. The closing number will be "Bubble Wrap," with a chance for kids to pop bubbles.

For details, call (847) 724-5670 or go to www.glenviewparks.org.

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Celebrating summer, one putt at a time

Looking for a fun way to spend time with your kids this summer and enjoy the good weather outdoors? Try a round or two of miniature golf.

Not only is it an entertaining way to get outdoors, it also reinforces key math skills and cooperative play.

Over the past two years, my 9-year-old son and I have been on a mission to try out every miniature golf course in the Chicago area. Below are some of our favorites throughout the suburbs of Chicago.

**Novelty Golf & Games/Bunny Hutch**
3650 W Devon Ave., Lincolnwood
847-679-9434; www.noveltygolf.com

Take a step back in time at this Lincolnwood staple that has been family owned and operated for over 65 years. Although the 36-hole miniature golf course lacks the bells and whistles our kids are used to, it oozes charm and character the whole family can enjoy. Holes are designed around classic miniature golf themes such as knights in shining armor, dinosaurs and Frankenstein's head. Novelty Golf and Games also has batting cages, an arcade and an old-fashioned hot dog stand called the Bunny Hutch. Novelty Golf and Games is open 7 days a week until midnight making it a favorite for late night excursions and dates. Just watch out for the dinosaur.

**Aloha Falls Golf**
Ad1800 N. US Highway 45, Libertyville
847-549-3630; www.alohafallsgolf.com

As the name indicates, this Hawaiian-themed course makes golfers feel like they are in the South Pacific soaking up the sun. Two, 18-hole courses offer plenty of bridges, jumps, drop holes and water hazards. If you play like me, you'll be spending quite a bit of time in the numerous water traps. The onsite cafe sells hamburgers, hotdogs and ice cream treats. Be sure to check out their classic Chocolate Avalanche ice cream float. Another bonus at this course? The onsite clubhouse has board games available so you can extend your family fun afternoon through a game night marathon.

**River's Edge Adventure Golf**
Skokie Valley Highway Route 41, Highland Park
847-433-3422; www.highlandparkcc.com/learning-center.html

For those looking for a more authentic golf experience, River's Edge Adventure Golf is the place for you. The 18-hole course is comprised solely of turf, logs and water. There are many drops, bridges, tunnels and waterfalls making this naturalistic course both challenging and fun for all members of the family.

**Par King**
21711 N. Milwaukee Ave., Lincolnshire
847-634-0333; www.par-king.com

Most miniature golf aficionados are familiar with Par King, which has been featured on the Travel Channel and in Golf Magazine. Players can watch their golf balls go up in an elevator, travel down on a roller coaster and roll past a replica of Mount Rushmore. In fact the entire course is filled with inventive holes with moving parts. The course enforces a strict height requirement (48 inches or taller), so parents with younger kids should consider leaving them at home as they will not be allowed on the course.

**Holes and Knolls**
845 Pershing Ave., Glen Ellyn
630-469-7888; www.gepark.org/parkingmg.html

This lovely course is known for its well-manicured greens and challenging water hazards. Each of the 36 holes include pins that give the course a distinct golf feel. There are giant nets on hand so you can easily fish your ball out of the water, but be warned, fishing for balls can easily become an activity in itself! The mini golf course is maintained by the Glen Ellyn park district and the area includes a splash park, playground, picnic shelter, and zip line.
GO CALENDAR

Listings are subject to change.
Please call the venue in advance.

Friday, July 3

Frontier Days: This five-day festival in Arlington Heights features a parade on the Fourth of July, live music each night, a soccer tournament, food for sale, bingo and more. 5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. Saturday-Sunday, Recreation Park, 500 E. Miner St, Arlington Heights, free, 847-577-8572

Windy City RibFest: Noon Friday-Sunday, Lawrence Avenue and Broadway, Chicago, $5 suggested donation, 773-868-3010

“A Good People”: 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Redtwist Theatre, 1044 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Chicago, $35, 773-975-8861

Amphibians: Meet 40 species of frogs, salamanders and rarely seen caecilians. 9 a.m. daily, Shedd Aquarium, 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Regular admission applies, 312-939-2438

“Don’t Go Gentle”: Now retired and widowed, and seeking redemption, Judge Driver runs the condescension, Judge Driver runs the vulnerable ex-con with a troubled teenage daughter, while working to repair the increasingly complicated relationships with his own adult children. When his newfound generosity is perceived as condescension, Judge Driver runs the risk of losing everything. 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Victory Gardens Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, $30-$60, 773-871-3000

“Stick Fly”: Follow an affluent African-American family over the course of their 3-day vacation to Martha’s Vineyard in this comedy about what can happen when a family gets together. 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Windy City Playhouse, 3014 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago, $20-$45, 312-374-3196

“Voyage”: For mature audiences. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Chopin Theatre, 1514 W. Division St., Chicago, $20, 773-278-1500

“Indigo Sun”: With Woo Park and Les Racquet. 10 p.m. Friday, Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, 773-489-3160

“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. 9:30 a.m. Friday-Saturday, noon Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Monday-Wednesday, Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark St., Chicago, free, 312-642-4600

Access for All exhibition: This exhibition honors the 25th anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act. It showcases images by disability rights photographers Tom Olin, 9:30 a.m. daily, Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark St, Chicago, $14; $12 for seniors and students; Free for children 12 and under, 312-642-4600

“Bible Bingo”: An 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

“Grand Concourse”: 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, 1650 N. Halsted St, Chicago, $20-$59, 312-335-1650

“The Magic Parlour”: See feats of magic and illusion performed by Dennis Watkins. 7:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Palmer House Hilton, 17 E. Monroe St, Chicago, $75, 773-769-3832

“Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike”: 8 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Goodman Theatre, 170 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, $25-$86, 312-443-3800

“Family Fun Festival: Arts and crafts, music, interactive activities and reading centers are among the many events offered throughout the summer. 10 a.m. daily, Millennium Park, 201 E. Randolph St, Chicago, free, 312-742-5222

“On Your Feet!”: The musical tells the story of Gloria and Emilio Estefan’s relationship and career. 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Oriental Theatre, 24 W. Randolph St., Chicago, $50-$97, 800-775-2000

“Chicago Summerdance: The Spirit of Music garden will be turned into a dance space with over 40 bands providing the music. 6 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 4 p.m. Sunday, Grant Park, 337 E. Randolph St, Chicago, free, 312-742-7649

“The America Play”: This production will follow the reevaluation of America’s history asking questions about what defines the American people and how history shapes us. 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and Monday, 7 p.m. Sunday, Orca Theatre, 3809 N. Broadway Ave., Chicago, free, 252-220-0269

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 collections in the United States. 10 a.m. daily, Richard H. Driehaus Museum, 40 E. Erie St, Chicago, $12.50-$20, 312-482-8933

“Body and Blood”: 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, The Gift Theatre, 4802 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, $25-$35, 773-283-7071

“Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind”: The longest-running show in Chicago, it’s a one-hour blitz of 30 extremely brief plays. 11:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday, The Neo-Futurarium, 5153 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, $9 plus the roll of one die ($10-$15) or $20 for advance reservation, 773-275-5255

“Soon I Will Be Invincible”: 7:30 p.m. Friday, 4 p.m. & 8 p.m. Saturday, 4 p.m. Sunday, Lifeline Theatre, 6912 N. Glenwood Ave, Chicago, $20-$40, 773-761-4477

“Archibald Motley: Jazz Age Modernist” Learn about the American artist and his impact on history. 9 a.m. daily, Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph St, Chicago, free, 312-744-6630

All My Relations: A Seneca History: In collaboration with visual artist and dancer Rosy Simas (Seneca), this exhibit introduces the history of the Seneca culture through milestones in the lives of Simas and her relations. 11 a.m. daily, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St, Evanston, Free-$5, $10-$12 for talk, 847-475-1030

“The Last Supper: 600 Plates Illustrating Final Meals of Death Row Inmates”: 2 p.m. daily, Block Museum of Art, 2146 Stevenson St, Northwestern University, Evanston, free, 847-491-4000

“Doubt: A Parable”: 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday and Tuesday-Wednesday, Glencoe Union Church, 263 Park Ave., Glencoe, $35-$70, 847-242-6000

“Never The Bridesmaid”: 8 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Oil Lamp Theater, 1723 Glenview Road, Glenview, $35, 847-834-0738

Chagall for children: This highly-interactive exhibit features hands-on activities and audio descriptions of each of Marc Chagall's works specifically appropriate for children ages 2-12. 9:30 a.m. daily, Kohl Children's Museum, 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, $11-$10, 847-832-6600

Glenview Theatre Guild’s “The Music Man”: 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Glenbrook South High School, 4000 W. Lake Ave, Glenview, $20-$37, 847-604-9477

Mandin Fried, Midori, Aitar Arad, Paul Biss, Frans Helmerson, Gary Hoffman: Watch performances of Brahms, Schubert and more. 8 p.m. Friday, Ravinia Festival, Martin Theatre, 418 Sheridan Road, Highland Park, $10-$60, 847-266-5100

Northwest Fourth-Fest: July 3 events feature a carnival and two music acts — the Sonic 7 and 7th Heaven. July 4 features a parade, an arts and crafts fair, a diaper derby, face painting, balloon animals, pony rides, a zip-line, foods, of course fireworks. July 5th continues with more family activities. For more information, visit northwestfourthfest.com. 6 p.m. Friday, 8:45 a.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. Sunday, The Sears Centre, 5333 Prairie Stone Pkwy, Hoffman Estates, free, 630-328-2222

Turn to Calendar, Next Page
Saturday, July 4

Fourth of July Fireworks in Antioch: This Fourth of July event features fireworks at dusk. Starting at 3 p.m. there are activities, music and food for sale. 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Williams Park, 739 Main Street, Antioch, free.

Antioch Independence Day Celebration: Start with annual Run for Freedom at 8 a.m., followed by the parade and then head to Williams Park for activities and fireworks. 8 a.m. Saturday, Williams Park, 739 Main St, Antioch, free.

Barrington 4th of July Parade: As part of Barrington's 150th Anniversary celebration, the parade starts at Barrington High School, along Main Street, ending at the train station. 10 a.m. Saturday, Barrington High School, 616 W. Main St, Barrington, free, 847-346-2986

Fourth of July Fireworks in Buffalo Grove: Fireworks can be viewed from the Rotary Village Green, the Buffalo Grove Golf Course or Willow Stream Park. 7 p.m. Saturday, Willow Stream Park South, 651 Old Checker Road, Buffalo Grove, free, 847-850-2100.

“Cheryl Pope’s Just Yell: Leveling the Playing Field”: As the artist in residence Cheryl Pope will transform the Garland Gallery into a creative space engaging visitors of all ages. 2 p.m. Saturday, noon Sunday and Tuesday, Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St., Chicago, free, 312-744-6630

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GO CALENDAR

Deerfield Family Days Annual Flower Show: Amateur gardeners (including children) are invited to participate in this annual event. 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Jewett Park Community Center, 836 Jewett Park Drive, Deerfield, free, 847-945-0650

Des Plaines Independence Day Festivities: Parade steps off from Center and Wickle streets and travels North. 10 a.m. Saturday, Des Plaines, free

Elgin 4th of July Parade: 9 a.m. Saturday, Downtown Elgin, 2 Douglas Ave., Elgin, free

Glencoe Fourth of July Celebration: Glencoe’s Fourth of July celebration will feature a fun run, family games, a parade, a beach barbecue and fireworks. 8 a.m. Saturday, Lakefront Park, 647 Longwood Ave., Glencoe, free

Glenview Fourth of July Celebration: The annual parade begins at 11:15 a.m. The party will continue at the patriotic concert by the 100-piece North Shore Concert Band. Fireworks will be included in the concert. 7 p.m. Saturday, Gallery Park, 2001 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

Jammin’ in Jens Jensen Park to Debut Summer Concert Series: 11 a.m. Saturday, Jens Jensen Park, 486 Roger Williams Ave., Highland Park, free, 262-552-7111

Chicago Chamber Music Workshop Soirees! 11 a.m. Saturday, Midwest Young Artists Center, 878 Lystor Road, Highwood, free, 847-926-9988

Fourth of July in Northbrook: Breakfast hosted by the Rotary Club at Village Green; Liberty Loop 5K Run/Walk and Liberty Lap Fun Run at Techy Prairie Park and Fields; Rotary Club Rubber Duckie Race at Village Green Rubber Duckie Race at Village Green; free community cookout at Village Presbyterian Church, 1300 Shermer Road; and a mile-long parade from Cherry and Western to Shermer and Meadow. 7 a.m. Saturday, Meadowhill Park, 1470 Maple Ave., Northbrook, free, 847-291-2960

Skokie Parade and 3D Fireworks: Skokie’s Fourth of July parade kicks off at noon in downtown Skokie. At 5 p.m. the festivities moves to Niles West High School, 5701 Oakton St., and features food, drinks and live bands. 12 p.m. Saturday, Niles West High School, 5701 Oakton St., Skokie, free, 847-626-2500

Sunday, July 5

Movies in the Parks: “Teen Wolf”: 8 p.m. Sunday, Jovquil Park, 1023 W. Wrightwood Ave., Chicago, free, 312-742-1134

Weekly Jazz Jam: 10 a.m. Sunday, Moe’s Tavern, 2937 N Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, free, 773-227-2937

Garfield Park Conservatory Farmers Market: 11 a.m. Sunday, Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park Ave., Chicago, free, 312-746-5100

Jerry Garcia Tribute: With Steve Kimock and Jackie Greene. 3 p.m. Sunday, House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, $49.90, 312-923-2000

Annoyance Film Night: View the lineup at the annoyancen.com/events/event/annoyance-film-night. 8 p.m. Sunday, The Annoyance Theatre, 851 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, $2, 773-697-9693

Deerfield Historic Village: 2 p.m. Sunday, Deerfield Historic Village, 450 Kipling Place, Deerfield, free, 847-948-0880

Yundi: Watch performances of Chopin’s Complete Ballades. 2 p.m. Sunday, Ravinia Festival, Martin Theatre, 418 Sheridan Road, Highland Park, $10-$60, 847-266-5100

“M. The Knights”: Featuring Eric Jacobson and Dawn Upshaw. 7 p.m. Sunday, Ravinia Festival, Martin Theatre, 418 Sheridan Road, Highland Park, $10-$60, 847-266-5100

Monday, July 6

Downtown Sound: King Sunny Ade, Matthew Tembo: 6:30 p.m. Monday, Millennium Park, 201 E. Randolph St., Chicago, free, 312-742-5222

Movies in the Parks: “X-Men Days of Future Past”: 8 p.m. Monday, Clark Park, 4615 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, free, 312-742-1134

Movies in the Parks: “Much Ado About Nothing”: “Teen Wolf”: 8 p.m. Monday, Osterman Beach (formerly Hollywood Beach), 5800 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, free, 312-742-1134

For further information, please visit the Taste of Park Ridge website at tasteofparkridge.com.
GO CALENDAR

PANCAKE BREAKFAST in the WOODS

Sunday, July 12 • 8:30 a.m.-noon • 4650 Brummel St, Skokie

Bring the family to Emily Oaks for a breakfast among the oak trees! The menu includes delicious pancakes served hot off the griddle with syrup or strawberries, turkey sausage, and beverages. Complete your morning with a stroll and enjoy "Brush with Nature" plein air painters working along the Nature Center trails.

Advanced tickets are recommended and can be purchased at Emily Oaks.

Tickets: $7.50/adult $5.50/children under 10

IRISH MUSIC SESSION: 7 p.m. Tuesday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

STARLIGHT CONCERT FEATURES JEFFREY BROUSSARD AND THE CREOLE BOYS: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Leahy Park, Ridge Avenue, Evanston, free

JEFFREY KAHANE: 8 p.m. Tuesday, Ravinia Festival, Martin Theatre, 418 Sheridan Road, Highland Park, $10-$60, 847-266-5100

MOVIES, MUNCHIES, AND MORE: Film: "Into the Woods": The general theme is a modern twist on several beloved Brothers Grimm fairy tales with the cast including: Meryl Streep, Emily Blunt, and James Corden. 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 640 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

"GOLDILOCKS AND THE THREE BEARS": 10:30 a.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Cutting Hall Performing Arts Center, 150 E. Wood St., Palatine, $12, 773-205-9600

COUNTRY IN THE PARK: Free country music concert series. 7 p.m. Tuesday, MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-349-5008

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

LEFTOVER CUTIES: 8 p.m. Wednesday, City Winery Chicago, 1200 W. Randolph St., Chicago, $12-$18, 312-733-9463

MELVINS: 8 p.m. Wednesday, Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, $25, 773-489-3160

OPEN MIC WITH RIC RADICK: 9 p.m. Wednesday, Moe's Tavern, 2937 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, free, 773-227-2937

RICHARD CHEESE AND LOUNGE AGAINST THE MACHINE: With Funky Mojo Daddy. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, $32.50, 312-923-2000

MOVIES IN THE PARKS: "ANNE": 8 p.m. Wednesday, Portage Park, 4100 N. Long Ave., Chicago, free, 312-742-1134

SUMMER PROGRAM TO BEGIN AT DES PLAINES HISTORY CENTER: The program is designed for children, ages 5-12, with an adult. 1 p.m. Wednesday, Des Plaines History Center, 781 Pearson St., Des Plaines, $3; $2 with a member, 847-391-5399

Jackman Park Summer Concert Series: Head outside for musical entertainment at the Jackman Park Summer Concert Series. Bring dinner, folding chairs and lawn blankets. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jackman Park, 130 Prairie St., Glenview, free, 847-724-5670

Grayslake Farmers Market: Shop for a variety of fresh, homemade and locally grown goods. 3 p.m. Wednesday, Downtown Grayslake, 147 Center St., Grayslake, Free, 847-289-7138

Chicago Symphony Orchestra: 8 p.m. Wednesday, Ravinia Festival, 418 Sheridan Road, Highland Park, $10-$75, 847-266-5100

Ravinia's Steans Music Institute: Program for Plano and Strings: 2 p.m. Wednesday, Ravinia Festival, Bennett-Gordon Hall, 418 Sheridan Road, Highland Park, free, 847-266-5100

Highwood Evening Farmers Market: This nighttime open air market features a variety of gourmet foods and goods on sale. 4 p.m. Wednesday, Everts Park, 130 Huron St, Chicago, free, 312-640-7418

Chicago Blues Festival: 3 p.m. Wednesday, House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, $27.50, 312-923-2000

Morton Grove Public Library: 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-967-4220

Ravinia's Steans Music Institute: "The Night Before Christmas" by Dr. Seuss, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Cutting Hall Performing Arts Center, 150 E. Wood St., Palatine, free, 847-304-5500

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra 2015 Season: Ravinia Festival: 8 p.m. Wednesday, Ravinia Festival, 418 Sheridan Road, Highland Park, $10-$75, 847-266-5100

Sheryl Youngblood: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, $27.50, 312-923-2000

Rush Hour Concert Series: 5 p.m. Tuesday, MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-349-5008

In This Moment: Black Widow Tour: Sheryl Youngblood. 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, $27.50, 312-923-2000

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“Dope” ★★★½
R, 1:55, comedy drama. “Dope” is guided by protagonist Malcolm’s (played by Shameik Moore) obsession with ‘90s music and fashion. Malcolm is a high school senior who lives with his bus driver mother (Kimberly Elise). His father came in and out of their lives quickly, and Malcolm’s only meaningful memento of the man is a copy of his favorite movie: “Superfly.” This is no casual detail, for the events of “Dope” send Malcolm and his best friends into a criminal and lucrative orbit not unlike the milieu of “Superfly.” Life in “The Bottoms,” the LA neighborhood from which Malcolm wants out, may be dangerous, but writer-director Rick Famuyiwa presents it as part cautionary tale, part merry, cynical capitalist fable with a good-natured survivor at the center. — Michael Phillips

“Inside Out” ★★★½
PG, 1:35, animation. Home, and where the heart is, guides the thinking of “Inside Out” which follows a few months in the life of Riley (voiced by Kaitlyn Dias). She’s the daughter of a loving Minnesota couple (Diane Lane and Kyle MacLachlan) whose lives are shaken up by a move to San Francisco. Suddenly Riley’s sense of place is scrambled, and she’s looking for a compass. Director Peter Docter’s “Inside Out” springs from a single, terrific idea. What if a person’s basic emotions were tiny humanoid sprites sharing a command center, a spacious variation on the one in the starship Enterprise but inside the human brain? While the idea isn’t new, it is vastly adaptable. Saying “Inside Out” is the best Disney-Pixar picture since “Up” in 2009 says less than it should. — M.P

“Jurassic World” ★★½
PG-13, 2:10, action. Bailed out by a few good jolts, “Jurassic World” gets by, barely, as a marauding-dinosaurs narrative designed for a more jaded audience than the one “Jurassic Park” conquered back in 1993. Of course you know what you’re getting in “Jurassic World.” I wasn’t expecting the world, but I wouldn’t have minded sharper jokes and grander action scenes. — M.P

“San Andreas” ★★½
PG-13, 1:47, action. The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars. The fault is the star of “San Andreas,” a fairly entertaining weapon of mass destruction reminding us that life’s blessings come to those who receive preferential billing. We may as well call it “It’s a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad Earthquake,” though the tremors in “San Andreas” aren’t so much mad as disappointed. So many Californians to wipe out in only 107 minutes of screen time! That’s 51 minutes shorter than Roland Emmerich’s schlocktastic “2012.” — M.P

“Spy” ★★
R, 2:00, comedy. Melissa McCarthy’s latest reunites her with “Bridesmaids” director Paul Feig for their third collaboration. Coming off “St. Vincent,” McCarthy exhibits a newfound subtlety in the best scenes in “Spy,” which is a strange thing to say about a film with a full quotient of R-rated trash talk, along with a barrage of violence played more or less straight, to mixed results. I prefer my comedies a little less bone-crunchy. But the cast, led by McCarthy as a behind-the-scenes CIA analyst who finally gets a taste of the James Bond action, drives this vehicle with supreme confidence. The laughs are there, small bits and large. Feig has made three viable commercial comedies in a row, a minor miracle in itself. — M.P
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Automakers face hurdles in marketing technology that is arriving faster than expected...
Kia Sedona: lacks practicality

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Tribune Newspapers

The Kia Sedona is the handsomest minivan on the market. And no, that's not like saying you have the best-looking fire hydrant on the block.

If you were to see the Sedona in your rear-view mirror, with its wide-mouth tiger grille, angular headlights over low-slung fender fog lights all riding on 19-inch wheels, you could mistake it for an SUV such as the Durango.

After redshirt season, Nezirevic excited to play college soccer

**By Eric Van Dril**

Pioneer Press

A coaching change prior to Dzenan Nezirevic's freshman season at Jacksonville left the Niles West alumnus without a role on the Dolphins' men's soccer team. He transferred to Western Michigan after one semester.

Nezirevic is eligible to play this fall and entering his redshirt freshman season with the Broncos.

"I have never been more excited for a season," Nezirevic said via email. "My freshman year was quite miserable at times. The thing I love most was kind of taken from me, and I missed playing on the field. Every game I watched made me hungrier to play."

Mauricio Ruiz was hired as Jacksonville's coach in February 2014. Nezirevic is currently visiting his family in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. He's continued training for the upcoming soccer season while in the capital. He's run up hills, worked out at a gym and watched his diet.

"I would say the hardest part [about training in Sarajevo] is saying no to all the great food offered," Nezirevic said. "But I am managing pretty well I think."

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Notre Dame QB Tsagalis chooses Western Illinois

**By Sports Department**

Pioneer Press

Quarterback Tyler Tsagalis, a senior-to-be at Notre Dame, verbally committed to play football for Western Illinois last week.

Western Illinois was the first school to offer the 6-foot-3, 205-pound Tsagalis, according to Rivals.com. The Leathernecks made the offer in April and Tsagalis committed on June 22.

The Deep Dish Football twitter account ranks Tsagalis as the fifth-best quarterback in Illinois in the Class of 2016.

In this Oct. 24, 2014, photo, Notre Dame's Tyler Tsagalis carries the ball on a quarterback keeper against Carmel in Mundelein.
Surgery a summer setback, but Solawa gears up for OSU

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

The final match of Greg Solawa's club soccer career took place on June 26, but he couldn't contribute in his customary role as attacking midfielder.

His Chicago Magic U18 team played at the Grand Park Sports Complex in Westfield, Indiana. Solawa missed the U.S. Soccer Development Academy Playoffs after he had surgery to remove a cyst on his tailbone about two weeks before the game.

The initial plan, the 2015 Niles West graduate said, was to play with the cyst during the final weeks of the Magic's season and throughout his freshman season at Ohio State. But the cyst became infected and likely would continue to get infected without surgery, Solawa said his doctor told him.

As a result, Solawa could only watch as his team lost 4-0 to Real Salt Lake AZ.

"Sitting on the sideline and knowing that you can't be on the field, helping your team, it was killing me," Solawa said. "But I'm just looking to the future and being ready for Ohio [State]."

Not having Solawa as a creative force in the midfield was a blow to the Magic against Real Salt Lake AZ. Not only was the team without one of its best players - Solawa was one of three players invited to the U.S. U-18 Men's National Team training camp in October 2014 - he was its most imaginative.

"He was one of the most technical players we had," Chicago Magic U18 coach Pascal Bedrossian said. "At any time he can make a difference. He can make a pass and anything can happen when he has the ball. That's why having Greg was a great thing, because he's a different player. He's not like a regular player that we have or anyone has - like, 'OK, you have to do this, you have to do that,' like a robot. We never knew what he was going to do. He could have used his left foot, he could have used his right foot - play long, play [them] short, dribble. It was always different.

"That's what you like, as a coach, is having someone different on the field."

Although Solawa couldn't play in the final games of his Chicago Magic career, he's been able to continue training for much of this summer. He's worked out with his older brother, Arek Solawa, four times a week at Blast Fitness.

On the days he doesn't lift, Greg Solawa said he runs two miles to keep his fitness up and also does conditioning listed in the packet that Ohio State sent to him. One thing listed in the packet is 12 120-yard sprints, where Greg Solawa has to sprint 120 yards in 15-17 seconds or fewer, jog back in 30 seconds, rest for 15 seconds and then do the next 120-yard sprint. After six sprints, the packet says to add an extra minute of rest before continuing with the next set of six sprints.

One goal Greg Solawa is working toward is to play immediately at Ohio State, he said. The Buckeyes, who lost to top-seeded Notre Dame 2-1 in the second round of the 2014 NCAA Tournament, have an opening at attacking midfielder after Yianni Sarris graduated.

To fill Sarris' starting spot, the 5-foot-7, 140-pound Greg Solawa, likely will have to prove he can compete against center backs and defensive midfielders who have a better combination of size, strength and athleticism than he's seen so far.

"I think the style of play, it's probably going to be a little quicker than what I'm used to with Academy soccer," said Greg Solawa, who was ranked the No. 29 recruit nationally in the Class of 2015 by College Soccer News. "But I think the aspect that's going to be really different is the overall athleticism of every player. They're going to be bigger, stronger and just more physical."

Greg Solawa has focused this summer on preparing physically for the next level of soccer. But former Magic players have told Greg Solawa it also will be important, to be himself and to play with the freedom, skill and imagination that have allowed him to stand out as an attacking midfielder.

"I'm not the biggest. I don't have the most mass or muscle on me, but I believe it's what you can do with the ball," Greg Solawa said. "If you get the ball, you're quick, you can make a move and you can make a pass, that will be the difference."

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter: @VanDrilSports
Nielsen tennis tournament a chance to catch star players

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

Editor’s note: This is the first in a series of stories about things for sports fans to do and see in and around the Pioneer Press coverage area.

Over the last 30 years, the Nielsen Men’s Pro Tennis Championship — which is slated to begin with qualifying on July 5 at the A.C. Nielsen Tennis Center in Winnetka — has provided Chicagoland tennis fans with the opportunity to see some of the United States’ best players before they went on to stardom.

Pete Sampras, for instance, was 16 when he was given a wildcard to play in Winnetka’s Challenger tournament in 1988. He went on to win 14 Grand Slam singles titles.

There are several other examples. Todd Martin played in Winnetka multiple times. John Isner was the tournament’s top seed in 2009. Current professionals Sam Querrey and Jack Sock — the event’s 2006 and 2013 singles champions, respectively — both turned pro at the Nielsen Championship, tournament director Linda Goodman said. Sock is the No. 31 seed at Wimbledon this year. Isner (17) is the only higher-seeded American.

“I think that’s what’s so exciting about Nielsen,” Goodman said of the young talent. This year, the player who fits that mold is Frances Tiafoe.

Tiafoe is a 17-year-old from College Park, Md. The Washington Post profiled Tiafoe last year in a story titled, “An improbable tennis prodigy.” In the article, the newspaper told Tiafoe’s uplifting story of how the son of immigrants from Sierra Leone became the United States’ best junior player by growing up at the Junior Tennis Champions Center in College Park — where his father worked as a maintenance man.

The field at the Nielsen Championship, which also includes a doubles tournament, will remain in flux until the night before qualifiers begin. Tiafoe has already been granted a wildcard into the main draw. His presence in Winnetka will give Chicagoland tennis fans the chance to see a player who could be America’s next tennis star, as well as an opportunity to see a very high level of tennis up close.

“Anybody at this tournament, on any given day, could go to the U.S. Open and beat one of the top 50 players,” Goodman said. “It truly is like seeing the U.S. Open without the ambience of the Open, which is sort of unlike anything except probably the French [Open], Wimbledon or [the] Australian [Open]. It’s just an amazing opportunity.”

Gurnee native Dennis Nevolo is currently ranked No. 541 in singles following a long break after he had surgery to repair a torn ligament in his left thumb. It has yet to be determined if Nevolo will have to play in the tournament’s qualifier or receive a berth in the main draw. He starred at Illinois and has played at the Futures and Challenger levels during his professional career.

“Some guys might have some bigger weapons in these [Challenger] tournaments,” said Nevolo, noting the difference between the three levels. “A lot of the guys who are playing Challengers, they’ve had more experience playing professional.”

The Nielsen Championship will feature professionals from different backgrounds and countries — and at different stages of their careers. American James Blake, for example, was given a wildcard slot in 2011 and he won the singles title. Blake had been ranked as high as No. 4 in the world in 2006 and reached the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open in 2005 and 2006.

It’s also been relatively common to see players at the Nielsen Championship who had played at Wimbledon the same year — like Blake and American Michael Russell, the top seed in 2014. The Nielsen Championship awards $7,700 and 80 ATP points to the singles winner. The points are vital for professionals who are trying to climb the ATP rankings and earn admittance into bigger events.

“Some guys might have some bigger weapons in these [Challenger] tournaments,” said Nevolo, noting the difference between the three levels. “A lot of the guys who are playing Challengers, they’ve had more experience playing professional.”

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For more information: Visit www.nielsenprotennis.com

Nielsen Men’s Pro Tennis Championship

What: A stop on the ATP Challenger Tour
Where: July 5-July 11
Where: A.C. Nielsen Tennis Center, 530 Hibbard Road, Winnetka

Qualifying: As in past years, the tournament will begin with qualifying rounds in which players battle for one of four available spots in the 32-person singles main draw. This year, the first two qualifying rounds are scheduled to take place on July 5 in what will be a long day of tennis that is free to the public. The qualifier finals are July 6 and also free.

Cost: tickets range from $15-$30, depending on the day; $100 weekly pass available, but does not include finals

Frances Tiafoe, who is pictured on May 25 during his first-round singles match at the French Open in Paris, received a wildcard into the main draw of the Nielsen Men’s Pro Tennis Championship in Winnetka. He was the youngest American to play in the main draw at Roland Garros since Michael Chang won it in 1989.
Whole new game

Greg Solawa, a 2015 Niles West grad, signed to play with the Ohio State men's soccer team. Ohio State reached the second round of the 2014 NCAA Tournament.

GREG SOLAWA
All of us at LRS wish you and your family a wonderful 4TH OF JULY weekend as we all celebrate the birth of our country.