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SPORTS
Setting up the season
Pioneer Press previews the area's girls volleyball teams. Page 49

LIVING
Lobster roll roundup
Summer is peak season for lobster, and the Chicago area is home to several tasty variations of this classic New England seafood sandwich. Hear local chefs' takes on the dish and find recipes to make at home. Inside
Changes to your community newspaper

Dear Readers,

Last week, we informed you about select changes to your community newspaper.

Today, we introduce TribLocal readers to your Pioneer Press publication. For Pioneer subscribers, we introduce a new delivery method that empowers us to bring you your news and information earlier in the day.

As always, we welcome your comments or questions via suburbs@tribpub.com. We'll continue to work tirelessly to earn your community-based readership.

The Editors

Dog day care

Tips on how to find the best fit for your pup. Living, Page 6

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Registration for Fall I and Fall II programs going on now.
Register in person, by phone or online at register.ymcachicago.org
As the design phase of the Pulse Milwaukee Line begins in earnest, another open house has been scheduled for public input.

The open house will be held Aug. 26, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Copernicus Center, 5216 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago.

“We began studying the area in 2014 and then in the early part of 2015 and up to now, we have been going through what’s called the environmental review process,” Pace spokesman Patrick Wilmot said. “Now we’re moving into the design phase. We are beginning to get a little bit closer to working on the more detailed information regarding the project and that comes back to the public meeting.”

During the last public open house, attendees were able to give input on locations for the bus to stop as well as items that would make the bus stops better for the public. Now, Pace has put together 10 locations for the bus to stop that it thinks will work best and has done some preliminary work on the designs for the bus stop shelters.

The Pulse Milwaukee Line is a new arterial bus rapid transit network that Pace says will allow riders to go more efficiently up and down Milwaukee Avenue in Niles.

“During the last public open house, attendees were able to give input on locations for the bus to stop as well as items that would make the bus stops better for the public. Now, Pace has put together 10 locations for the bus to stop that it thinks will work best and has done some preliminary work on the designs for the bus stop shelters.

“What we want to be able to do overall is use a combination of limited stops, technology and some other design elements to reduce travel times and improve on-time performance in the corridor,” Wilmot said.

According to Wilmot, Pace looked at similar systems being used in Los Angeles and Oakland, Calif., that have improved reliability and frequency for the buses, and also lowered operating expenses and increased public satisfaction with the service.

The design phase of the Pulse Milwaukee Line will continue throughout the remainder of 2015 and into 2016 when the construction of the bus stops will begin. Buses are expected to start running on the Pulse Milwaukee Line in 2017, according to Pace’s website.

For more information about the project and the upcoming open house, go to www.pacebus.com/pulse.

Alicia Ramirez is a freelance writer for Pioneer Press.
The Niles Teen Center has chosen a new supervisor for the program that operates at the Golf Mill Shopping Center.

Nicholas Pizzo, 23, of Niles was chosen for the position that he says basically ensures that the teens don't get out of hand and that they're never bored while there.

"You never want to have a kid say they're bored over here, so I try to keep them active and friendly," he said. "I don't really schedule things, but I run some tournaments ... I try to get them involved."

Pizzo said he is a senior at Northeastern University studying physical education and hopes to teach high school students after graduating.

"I've been working with kids for around seven or eight years and the majority of the kids I've worked with wore grade school, but now I get to work with grade school and high school kids, which is great for me, so getting the chance to experience this is definitely a benefit for me," he said.

Pizzo previously worked with the Niles Park District and was able to put on a number of sports clinics for children that included basketball, soccer, and volleyball. He also volunteered with the teen center including helping out with its popular lock-in event in the past.

"I like working with the kids who aren't very athletic and watching them improve their skills," he said.

As for his new position, Pizzo said he has enjoyed it so far and is looking forward to spending more time at the center he described as a cool place to be.

"It's definitely an outlet for kids to come in and meet other kids their own age, and some kids can be a little socially awkward, so it's nice for them to have a place to interact with kids who are their age and hang out and de-stress and have fun," he said.

For more information about the Niles Teen Center, 373 W. Golf Road, call 847-588-6900.

Alicia Ramirez is a freelance writer for Pioneer Press.
The power of literacy

BY LINDSEY COMPTON
Pioneer Press

Thousands of children in and around the Chicago area have been gifted with the power of literacy with the help of Niles Township and its surrounding North Shore communities.

More than 15,000 books were collected during the Books for All Children initiative that began July 13, according to Jack Macholl, public relations manager.

The program, in partnership with Bernie's Book Bank—an organization that encourages book ownership to low-income children—began after Township Supervisor Marilyn Glazer became involved with the nonprofit through her temple.

Glazer was so impressed that she wanted to be involved, Macholl said, adding that later she presented a proposal to the board and township that led to the collaboration.

Although the initial 20,000 book goal was not met, help from park districts located in Morton Grove, Niles, Skokie, Lincolnwood and Glenview, along with the Glenview Youth Services, proved the saying that “many hands make light work.”

“We reached out to the park districts in each town, and because they had day camps we were able to involve (the kids) in life lesson and social services projects,” he said. “Kids helped to collect books and distribute fliers. We also had tremendous support from the Skokie Library and its Chamber of Commerce.”

Macholl added the program was “pulled together in about 10 days” with “collection points at 21 locations in the North Shore.” Before this, the area lacked designations for people to donate new or gently used books.

“We still have books coming in, which is a wonderful thing,” Macholl said. “We will continue to accept them. Niles Township is now a permanent collection point for Bernie’s Book Bank.”

The nonprofit coordinates all pickups and transports them to its facility in Lake Forest, separating each one by age reading level. Books are then bagged and taken to schools throughout Chicago on distribution days in the fall and spring. Children can pick six books a total of 12 for the entire year.

To keep pace with the program, Macholl stated the township will try to do major summer and spring collections, but local and area residents can drop off books all year long.

“We were really impressed,” he added, saying the organization was “highly professional; great people to work with.”

Since 2009, Bernie’s Book Bank has distributed more than four million books to low-income and at-risk children, according to its website. For more information, go to berniesbookbank.org. To get involved or drop off books, go to niletownshipgov.com.

Lindsey Compton is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Alley-oop: Golf Maine Park District sets up fall basketball lessons for kids

ALICIA RAMIREZ
Pioneer Press

The Golf Maine Park District announced its fall lineup of basketball classes for local youth taking place at Dee Park, 9294 Dee Road, in Des Plaines.

There are two sessions, Sept. 15-Oct. 20 and Nov. 3-Dec. 8, where area kids will learn basketball fundamentals. The cost for either session is $42.

“This community is really big on basketball,” Stacey Greenfield, Golf Maine Park District superintendent for recreation, said. “The classes are more instructional, but our leagues are very popular.”

The League Prep classes are for children ages 7-9 and will teach students the skills required to participate in the district’s fourth-through sixth-grade basketball leagues that run year-round, according to Greenfield. Participants will practice dribbling, shooting, footwork and other basic basketball principals, according to a district release. Classes are held from 5-5:45 p.m. once per week.

The Little Dribblers classes are for children ages 4-6 years old and will teach the kids the basic fundamentals of basketball and skills such as dribbling and footwork, according to a release. Classes are held from 4-4:45 p.m. once per week. “I think it helps to get kids focused and it also helps with their social skills,” Greenfield said. “It teaches them to have fun being active.”

For more information about the basketball programs offered by the Park District, call (847) 297-3000 or go to www.gmpd.org.

Alicia Ramirez is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Three different types of guns are equipped with safety locks, similar to the ones distributed by the Niles Police Department.

Niles police continue providing residents with free gunlocks

Alicia Ramirez
Pioneer Press

For at least the last 15 years, the Niles Police Department has been handing out free gunlocks to residents who need them, and this year is no different, according to Sgt. Robert Tornabene, public information officer.

"All they have to do is come in, show proof of residency and then we issue them however many gunlocks they need for their firearms," he said.

The department currently purchases its gunlocks through a program called Project ChildSafe, which partners with more than 100 law enforcement agencies in Illinois to hand out free gun safety kits, according to the organization's website.

Tornabene was unsure of how many gunlocks the department handed out, but said as the department goes through the cases it purchases more, so all residents have the opportunity to obtain locks to safely store their firearms.

"Children are naturally curious, so having a gunlock and utilizing it prevents an accident or a tragedy from occurring and it guarantees that the gun is in a safe format so that it can't be just picked up and fired," he said. "There is a conscious effort that needs to be done in order to utilize it."

While Tornabene said there had not been any tragedies caused by an accidental discharge of a firearm, he said the village chose to embark on this project for the benefit of all residents.

"It's really about overall safety for the residents in the home," he said. "It's really about overall safety for the residents in the home."

According to Tornabene, the locks come with two universal keys that can be used for any lock procured from the Police Department. The gunlocks prevent a gun from firing by not allowing the gun to be loaded until the lock has been removed.

According to Project ChildSafe, since 2003, 36 million firearm safety kits have been distributed to gun owners through law enforcement agencies throughout the country.

Alicia Ramirez is a freelance writer for Pioneer Press.
Niles gears up for next Citizen's Police Academy class

ALICIA RAMIREZ
Pioneer Press

The Niles Police Department is preparing to start its next Citizen's Police Academy class with the deadline to sign up set for Aug. 21.

The 10-week class is scheduled to begin Sept. 15, and, according to Sgt. Robert Tornabene, public information officer for the department, 20 people are signed up.

“Our goal with the program is to improve police-community relations and broaden people's understanding on what law enforcement in the village does and how we operate and where their tax dollars are being spent,” Tornabene said.

A maximum of 30 people can sign up for the class, but Tornabene said class size is generally anywhere from 12 to 25 people. To be eligible for the class, participants must be over the age of 21 and have a connection to the village, either by living in the village, working in the village or having family in the village.

“There is everything from just our general police operations ... to evidence and crime scene processing with a little bit of hands-on experience,” Tornabene said.

The participants will also take part in classes that give them experience in firearms, traffic enforcement, patrolling and even classes on stress and legal issues.

“I think people have a misunderstanding about law enforcement in some cases ... and they can come and see it from our perspective and there's a lot of eye-opening that goes on,” Tornabene said.

While the classes are currently only for adults, Tornabene said the department is working on programming for middle school and high school age students to get involved in the Police Department.

Alicia Ramirez is a freelance writer for Pioneer Press.

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

DUI
Kevin J. Turner, 38, of Greenfield, Wis., was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol after he was arrested on Aug. 8. Police said Turner allegedly made a U-turn when he saw a roadside safety check underway on Touhy Avenue. He allegedly failed sobriety tests after he was pulled over. He is scheduled to appear in court on Aug. 31.

BURGLARY
A firearm was reported stolen from the glove compartment of a vehicle that was parked in the driveway of a home on the 8100 block of Greendale Avenue on Aug. 5. The owner of the firearm, who police said has a valid concealed carry permit, told police he left the gun in his car because his family was coming over and he didn't feel comfortable having it in the home. He said he was unsure if he had locked the vehicle.

Compiled by freelancer Natalie Hayes
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Tech camps give kids hands-on experience

BY ALICIA RAMIREZ
Pioneer Press

Battling robots, Minecraft and Java programming were just a few of the tech-themed camps taking place on Northwestern University's Evanston campus this summer hosted by iD Tech.

"At this location, it varies week by week," Director Nora Rader said. "We have a couple of campers who came all six weeks, some came five weeks and definitely from summer to summer, we have campers who come year to year."

One of those former campers has since graduated from DePaul University after studying video game design and is now one of the instructors for the iPhone and Android game design course.

"I was like 9 or 10 when I first started coming here and went all the way until I was about 16 and I loved it," Andre Gracias, of Chicago, said. "It's what got me into video game design, because when I was a kid I was always interested in it... and as soon as I came here, I found out that I really had a passion for it."

The camps not only gave Gracias the skills he needed to continue to learn and develop as a game designer, but also let him know that video game design is a viable career path.

"When I was a kid, I didn't really think that making video games was something you could do as a job," Gracias said. "I thought it was something that people did because they liked it and people bought the game and it was happenstance that they were able to make a job out of it."

And while Gracias admits that it is a little early to be thinking of the future for a lot of these campers, who can start going to camp at the age of 6, iD Tech gives them the ability to experience technology in an environment that fosters creativity, expression and growth of the campers throughout the weeklong camp.

"It's a nice, easy introduction," Gracias said. "It's not like going into a high school Java (programming language) class and trying to make a game, because that can be hard and very daunting, but we ease them in very super slowly and they end up with something great and they have the skills where they can do it at home."

As for the campers, the ability to explore technology in an environment where an instructor is close by to help them work through problems comes second to being able to play their favorite games or build robots.

"I like making texture
Tech, from Previous Page

packs and playing Minecraft a bunch,” Declan Chhay-Vickers, 11, of Chicago, said.

“We’re making adventure maps and so you build a giant game and you can have different things in it,” he said. “I’m making a carnival map, others are making boss maps where you can defeat the bosses.”

Surrounded by other campers, all with their own iD Tech laptops, Chhay-Vickers was in his element, playing a game he had played countless times before, but this time, he was learning how to control it and build it for other people to play as well.

But Minecraft, a game noted for its low-resolution graphics and open-ended creative play style, was not the only video game available for the campers to use as a base for their technological discovery. There were also first-person shooter games, which some of the older kids were building maps for.

These maps, or levels that make up most video games, while more involved than the Minecraft maps, used the same basic skills and allowed the campers to come up with their own ideas as well.

“Right now I am building a map for my class and later today when I’m finished with it, they’ll be able to play it, give me feedback and I’ll be able to improve it even more.” Addison Reddinger, 12, of Wilmette, said. “I like closed, fast, shooter maps. I don’t like big open areas.”

While the vast majority of the room was filled with campers staring into computers, a section of the room was cordoned off for the robotics program where a small group was separated into pairs to build robots that would battle one another.

“You have to test it a lot,” Matthew Marogil, 12, of Chicago, said. “You have to build your robot and then you have to make your program on the Lego Mindstorm site, but the main thing is fighting against other robots so you can see what your weaknesses are and make your robot stronger.”

The coding system used is a simple block coding that allows the campers to drag and drop preloaded commands — such as spinning, driving in any direction and even color sensing — onto a platform that can then be read by the robot’s internal computer system.

“We’ve been working on it for about half a day,” Harrison Horrell, 11, of Evanston, said. “The coding tells the robot what we want it to do, like the color sensor (coding) tells the robot what to do when it sees a color and what to do when it doesn’t see a color.”

Camper Joshua Horrell, left, is getting help from instructor Robert Schnurr while camper Ethan Massey focuses on his Minecraft map design during the iD Tech camp held at Northwestern University Aug. 10-14.

Tech camps that take place throughout the country. Started in California with a total of 280 campers, the program just completed its 17th season with tens of thousands of campers and partnerships with more than 100 universities, including four in the Chicago area — Northwestern, Loyola University, Benedictine University in Lisle and Lake Forest College.

For more information about iD Tech, visit www.iDTech.com or call 1-888-709-8324.

Alicia Ramirez is a freelance writer for Pioneer Press.
Skokie's Backlot Bash is nearly here

BY MIKE ISAACS
Pioneer Press

Does the annual Backlot Bash in downtown Skokie mark the last summer hurrah or the beginning of a new school year?

It's uncertain whether you'll find widespread agreement on that question, but whatever the Backlot Bash does or doesn't represent, it seems to be a whole lot of fun. For that, there is villagewide consensus.

There is also no good way to confine to one conclusion exactly what draws so many people to the popular three-day event. Is it the extensive carnival rides and games, the lineup of eclectic and top-line local entertainment, the vast array of food, maybe the ideal setting in the heart of downtown Skokie?

Most likely, it's all of the above.

This year's annual Backlot Bash, scheduled for Aug. 28 to 30, will be located, like always, across from Skokie Village Hall and the Skokie Public Library in the 5200 block of Oakton Street. "Like always," in fact, best describes the Backlot Bash, originators say.

No one behind the Backlot Bash wants to reinvent the large lit-at-night Ferris Wheel that visually cues the arrival of the three-day festival. The music might change from year to year, but the favorite attractions that people count on are as dependable as the daily mail.

"We get a tremendous outpouring of a tremendous attendance every year, from the community" Skokie Park District Executive Director John Ohrlund said.

"Everybody seems to love the music, the car show, the pancakes and the rides just the whole shindig. It's just a whole lot of fun for everyone."

The Park District, one of the chief hosts, considers the Backlot Bash one of its three major events - the other two being Skokie's Fourth of July Parade and the Festival of Cultures.

"This is the biggest and most fun one, perhaps," Ohrlund said.

Since 2007, when the Backlot Bash first kicked off in downtown Skokie, the festival has staged eclectic rock, blues and R&B music, including the Presidents of the United States of America, Lonnie Brooks, The Fixx, The English Beat, The Romantics, Cracker, Fastball, Spin Doctors and Smoking Popes.

This year, the Bash will feature The Fabulous Thunderbirds on Friday, the Psychedelic Furs on Saturday and Tributosaurus transforming itself into The Cars on Sunday - with other entertainment along the way.

Music is only one chapter in this festival's book of fun.

- The festival offers $50 Weekend Mega Passes for unlimited rides - on sale through Aug. 27. Daily wristbands, $25 per person, per day, are available for rides from noon to 4 p.m. either Saturday or Sunday.
- Skokie's Backlot Bash 5K and Kids' Run will be held in and around the grounds of Skokie's Backlot Bash Aug. 29. Race day registration is from 6 to 8 a.m. A kids' one-half mile "Fun Run" takes off at 8:30 a.m. and the 5K race at 9 a.m. An awards ceremony will follow the run.
- Organizers are working on scheduling classic films at this year's Bash. In the past, the Skokie Theatre hosted silent classic movies during the Backlot Bash in honor of how the Bash got its name. Chicago's Essanay Film Manufacturing Company frequently used Skokie's downtown streets for shooting western movies.
- The Backlot Bash will also offer Bingo Bash (6 to 10 p.m. Friday, 2 to 10 p.m. Saturday, 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday), a classic auto show (1 to 6 p.m. Saturday), a beer tent and food; a sponsor and community resource fair; a classic auto show (1 to 6 p.m. Sunday); the Rotary Club of Skokie Valley's Pancake Breakfast (8 to 11 a.m. Sunday); a dunk tank; the farmers market and more.

In addition to the Skokie Park District, the festival is hosted by the Independent Merchants of Downtown Skokie, Niles Township High School District 219, the Skokie Chamber of Commerce, the Skokie Public Library and the village of Skokie.

Main sponsors include North Shore Community Bank & Trust Co.; Miller, Joseph Mullarkey Distributors, Inc.; Renewal by Anderson Window Replacement; the Illinois Science + Technology Park; DoubleTree by Hilton; G.H. Creators Popped Corn; Miss Me; BathPlanet; ComEd; and Power Home Remodeling Group.

"The Backlot Bash has really become a community favorite," said Michelle Tuft, superintendent of recreation and facilities at the Park District. "It's something people so look forward to. It's at a good place where people expect it to be what it is, and we try to deliver every year."
Skokie resident named treasurer of Cook County networking association

Marilyn Glazer has served as supervisor of Niles Township since last year

BY NATALIE HAYES  
Pioneer Press

A top official with the Niles Township Government organization was appointed this month to oversee financial management of Township Officials of Cook County, a professional networking association for township officials in Cook County.

Skokie resident Marilyn Glazer, who has served as supervisor of Niles Township Government since last year, was appointed to the role of treasurer of the Cook County networking group this month following the departure of the group’s former treasurer, Jane Nolan.

Nolan was elected treasurer of Township Officials of Cook County last spring, but left her post prematurely for undisclosed personal reasons, according to information from the organization.

Glazer, who will be responsible for financial management and record keeping, said she doesn’t have a formal background in finance, but said she was exposed to accounting when she pursued her business degree at Northeastern University.

She was appointed to the position by her colleague Charles Levy, the longtime clerk of Niles Township, according to Jack Macholl, spokesperson for Niles Township Government.

Levy could not be reached for comment this week.

Glazer has a long history of involvement with public organizations on the local, county and state levels, including as a former commissioner on the Skokie Zoning Board of Appeals and as the past president of the Association of Illinois Real Estate Educators.

Niles Township Government primarily provides social services for low-income families in the township area, which encompasses Golf, Lincolnwood, Skokie, and parts of Glenview, Morton Grove, and Niles. It also runs the Niles Township Food Pantry.

“I've never been in an organization where I wasn't active”

– Marilyn Glazer, treasurer of the Cook County networking association

Glazer, a realtor and the president of a real estate education company she started called Glazer Enterprises, Inc. said she was looking forward to taking on her new role with Township Officials of Cook County.

“T've never been in an organization where I wasn't active,” Glazer said.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
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Morton Grove Animal Hospital expansion plans approved

BY LINDSEY COMPTON
Pioneer Press

A long-standing animal hospital in Morton Grove has been approved to receive its first major makeover since opening its doors in 1957.

The Morton Grove Animal Hospital and Boarding Facility was granted permission by the Morton Grove Board of Trustees on Aug 10 to move forward with a project to expand its current operation. What is now a two-lot, 4,600-square-foot building with two floors, will eventually become a four-lot, 6,040-square-foot structure that will remain two stories, as stated by the July 13 staff report.

Presently, the hospital only contains three exam rooms, limited parking and a small waiting space, the report read. Dr. Brian Han-is, one of the owners, said the approval will increase the number of rooms to six and expand other areas the team believes are needed to continue providing “exceptional medical care.”

The plan, according to Harris, is to begin building on the other two lots while still working in the current hospital. That first phase is expected to consist of a new waiting area, surgery space and multiple exam rooms. When completed, the second phase will begin, mainly focused on rebuilding the boarding space by adding an attached exercise area for the animals along with other modern amenities.

Feedback through surveys conducted by the team and an ample amount of planning led to the recent decision.

“Talking with our clients, they felt the facility was starting to look old and a little rough around the edges,” he said. “We agreed.”

Initially a remodel of the current structure was considered, but after learning the property was “largely a cinder block” that would pose difficulty to move, “we decided the best option would be a full new build,” he said.

Morton Grove’s approval was a long time coming for Harris and his team, which began planning nearly a year before hearing the positive news, Harris said.

“We had been talking with various village officials for six, eight months, maybe a little bit longer, just to get an idea of what they would be looking for,” said Harris. “We felt the facility was a little bit longer, just to get an idea of what they would be looking for,” he said.

Morton Grove’s Animal Hospital and Boarding Facility was granted permission by the Morton Grove Board of Trustees on Aug 10 to move forward with a project to expand its current operation. What is now a two-lot, 4,600-square-foot building with two floors, will eventually become a four-lot, 6,040-square-foot structure that will remain two stories, as stated by the July 13 staff report.

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“We had been talking with various village officials for six, eight months, maybe a little bit longer, just to get an idea of what they would be looking for,” said Harris. “We felt the facility was a little bit longer, just to get an idea of what they would be looking for,” he said.

Morton Grove’s Animal Hospital and Boarding Facility was granted permission by the Morton Grove Board of Trustees on Aug 10 to move forward with a project to expand its current operation. What is now a two-lot, 4,600-square-foot building with two floors, will eventually become a four-lot, 6,040-square-foot structure that will remain two stories, as stated by the July 13 staff report.

Presently, the hospital only contains three exam rooms, limited parking and a small waiting space, the report read. Dr. Brian Han-is, one of the owners, said the approval will increase the number of rooms to six and expand other areas the team believes are needed to continue providing “exceptional medical care.”

The plan, according to Harris, is to begin building on the other two lots while still working in the current hospital. That first phase is expected to consist of a new waiting area, surgery space and multiple exam rooms. When completed, the second phase will begin, mainly focused on rebuilding the boarding space by adding an attached exercise area for the animals along with other modern amenities.

Feedback through surveys conducted by the team and an ample amount of planning led to the recent decision.

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Westfield Old Orchard is poised to bring the first Shake Shack burger joint to the North Shore amid several new openings recently announced for the regional shopping center in Skokie.

Shake Shack calls itself “a modern day roadside burger stand” featuring burgers, hot dogs, frozen custard, beer, wine and more.

“With its fresh, simple, high-quality food at a great value, Shake Shack is a fun and lively community-gathering place with widespread appeal,” Old Orchard stated in a recent release about new opening announcements.

“From its premium ingredients and caring hiring practices to its environmentally responsible designs and deep community investment, Shake Shack’s mission is to Stand For Something Good,” Old Orchard stated. The restaurant is slated to open next to Macy’s.

The end of summer is a common time for Old Orchard to announce new openings for the fall shopping season.

Also scheduled to open this fall at Old Orchard is a Kate Spade store. The high-end fashion retailer sells handbags and clothing, jewelry, shoes, stationery, eyewear, baby items, fragrances, tabletops, bedding and gifts, among other items.

Opening in late August, Kate Spade is scheduled to open in space between Z Gallerie and Athleta.

West Elm will be located on the west end of the shopping center, between Talbots and Macy’s, according to Old Orchard.

Within the last year, Old Orchard has opened Forage + Craft, Peel’d, Garage, Athleta and Buffalo Wild Wings.

For more information on shopping center retailers, call 847-673-6800 or see www.estfield.com/oldorchard.
Uno Mas adds modern twist in former El Jardin space

BY JACKIE PILLOSOHP
Pioneer Press

“Heartbroken” is the word Larry Wright used when describing how he felt when El Jardin closed.

Wright, who has lived in Glenview since 2005, estimated that he and his two sons, joined by their dog, Regge, ate at the Mexican restaurant, located on the south end of the Glen Town Center, just a few doors from his residence, at least once a week.

“I liked the authenticity. It was genuine Mexican,” said Wright. “I also loved the people, so it felt like my friends were moving.”

El Jardin’s replacement at 1831 Tower Drive? Uno Mas Cocina & Tequila, a Mexican restaurant, but different than El Jardin in that it serves authentic Mexican food with a modern flair, according to owners Zeno Popa and Nick Philippas.

“Our goal is to offer the Glenview community family-friendly, date-night or girls-night experiences with a nice ambiance and great food,” said Popa, who with Philippas also owns the Glenview-based construction company Panel Brick Company and North Branch, a popular pizza and burger restaurant at Lake and Milwaukee avenues.

Before its opening last month, Uno Mas, which seats about 100 indoors and 28 outside, underwent a complete remodeling, with new industrial, urban ceilings and new lighting, floors, exposed brick walls, furniture and bar.

“We were going for an old Mexico look, and wanted the place to give you a warm feel overall,” said Popa, who lives in Glenview with his wife, Adela, and their two children.

With a menu largely influenced by chef Jose Zapata, who is also North Branch’s head chef, Uno Mas offers traditional Mexican appetizers and dishes, including guacamole, quesadillas, burritos, fajitas, enchiladas and street taco platters.

Also on the menu: salads such as Baja Caesar, Mexican chopped and Santa Fe; mesquite wood grill features like skirt steak, short rib, mahimahi, chicken mole and burgers; and cheese crisps with toppings like chipotle aioli and roasted corn, braised short rib and avocado, and Portobello mushroom and wood-roasted vegetables.

“We offer items that you wouldn’t typically find in a Mexican restaurant. It’s Mexican dishes with a twist,” said Zapata, a 17-year veteran chef, who has held positions at The Bellagio in Las Vegas, as well as Wheeling’s La Francaise and Chicago’s Les Nomades. “Everything is made in house and from scratch, including all of our sauces.”

Uno Mas, which means “one more” in Spanish, also offers sangria, wine, draft and bottled beer, Mexican cocktails, and, of course, a large variety of margaritas.

“I’ve been there twice and both times I thought the food was really good. I had fajitas the first time I went there and skirt steak the next time,” said Wright, who also said he has plans to take business associates to the restaurant.

But Wright said the real test of Uno Mas’ success will take place during the winter months.

“They’ve been successful with North Branch, so they understand the formula of running a restaurant,” he said. “If they can attract people in the wintertime, then they’ll succeed. That’s what determines what sinks or swims in the Glen.”

“Our philosophy is the same as it is at North Branch: large portions, good service and an atmosphere where everyone leaves happy at the end,” Popa said.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

XVP Comedy produces videos ‘purely for entertainment’

BY JACKIE PILLOSOHP
Pioneer Press

Patrick De Nicola describes comedy as “a release for anything bad in your life.”

“It helps people forget things that could be causing tension, even if it’s for five minutes,” said the 30-year-old Second City-trained comedian. “Watch a comedy video and you just feel better. It’s a healthy high.”

It is this attitude that led De Nicola and his business partner, comedian Sam Martin, to launch XVP Comedy, a new division of Northbrook-based Xpress Video Productions that produces humorous videos on its YouTube channel.

“We’re taking issues in pop culture and making them funny, purely for entertainment,” said the 32-year-old Martin, who studied with De Nicola at Second City, where the two said they became best friends.

XVP Comedy got its start by producing the ultra-popular Brody Criz video, a Deerfield family’s Bar Mitzvah invitation that was sent to guests on DVD last spring and then went viral on YouTube, where it received more than 2 million hits. The popularity of the video landed the duo of writers press in Time magazine and on TV’s “Today” and “Good Morning America.”

After realizing the success and potential of funny videos, both for commercial purposes and for the general public’s entertainment, Xpress Video Production owners Mark Goldstein and his son, Jeff, decided to allow De Nicola and Martin to produce several more.

“We said, ‘Trust us. We have been studying comedy for many years and we want to make our own movies,’” said Martin, who spent two years doing sketch comedy and improv for Norwegian Cruise Line before coming to work for Xpress Video Productions in 2009.

“When they began working here, they came on in an apprentice type of level,” said Mark Goldstein, who started Xpress Video Productions in 2006. “As they became more and more a part of this company, we began depending on their skills and we knew we needed to support what they wanted to do.”

In addition to the Brody Criz video, XVP Comedy has produced parodies that include “Jurassic Park: High Heels Edition,” “Mad Men: If Don Draper Pitched Modern Day Commercials” and “Watching Game of Throne With Your Mom,” which won “Best Comedy Award” in My Rode Reel 2015, an international online film festival.

“What these films are doing is giving us some very good exposure,” said Goldstein. “We’ve been contacted by 20th Century Fox and Island Records, and the work has led us to producing a music video for Nova Rockafeller. This is just the start for us.”

De Nicola, a former performer at Improv Olympic who has worked for Xpress Video Productions for four years, said the goal of XVP Comedy is to continue making comedic parodies and posting them on its YouTube channel.

“We want to build a comedy network where people can tune in and see funny videos parodying things going on in the world,” he said. “We feel strongly that doing so will lead to more opportunities for us.”

“There’s nothing better than making someone laugh – and laughter itself,” Miller said. “It’s the best medicine out there.”

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
The price per gallon of gas has dipped into the $2.55 range in Lake County, which is $1 per gallon cheaper than the final weeks of last summer's prices.

Another dispatch from the ongoing battle between the working class and Big Oil (Discount Dog Days Edition):

Fleeing Greater Chicago last week, it was duly noted that a Tollway Oasis gas station remains the port of last resort for the weary traveler. While the price per gallon had dipped into the $2.55 range elsewhere in Lake County, it was more like $2.80 at those pit stops along the Tri-State.

And was that a $3.19 sign spied along the route toward South Holland? I had to check the calendar to see if I had somehow traveled back to early July.

But the reality in our ongoing summer of (relatively) low-cost gasoline was confirmed upon entering the Hoosier State, where the billboards immediately started enticing motorists to the Horseshoe Hammond Casino or to Road Pilots touting regular unleaded for $2.45.

Heading into the wilds beyond the Indiana-Michigan border, gas prices in the Wolverine State — also apparently known as the Mitten State, for reasons you either know or I'll let you figure out on your own — held steady. I was thrilled to top off the tank for $2.44 in South Haven, which is not to be confused with Grand Haven.

That's your snapshot of our pump culture as summer 2015 enters the home stretch and some of us try to squeeze in a final road trip before the first school bells ring.

A year ago at this time, a gallon of gas in our end of the market was in the $3.60 category and was on its way up as Labor Day approached. Then came the autumn 2014 free-fall that found us briefly enjoying gas prices in the $1.99 range.

We're currently on a more modest slide, but a slide nonetheless. AAA Motor Club reports that the average price nationwide dropped for 26 consecutive days as of Monday, a trend attributed in part to oversupply in crude oil. At the same time, the no-surprise headline is that we've been hitting the road more, with Americans driving a record 275.1 billion miles in May.

Let the arguments continue about whether our cheap gas is a big-picture good thing. Are we overindulging in a world that still needs conservation? Will weak oil undercut the economy in hidden ways? Are we spending the dollars saved at the pump or paying off our debts?

While the true experts hash out the numbers, I can report that certain locations in Lake County were inexplicably back up above $2.70 upon my return this weekend. Meanwhile, prices in Northwest Indiana were dipping toward $2.30.

Maybe a trip to the Horseshoe wouldn't be so crazy after all.
We know your favorite spot better than your spouse

Reintroducing Chicago's original entertainment guide

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

metromix.com

OPINION

ERIC ALLIE

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Raise taxes on alcohol

Raise taxes on whiskey, beer and wine.

The annual cost to society for alcohol-related auto accidents alone is about 25 billion.

About 46 percent of American citizens don't drink any alcohol during the year. If we count those who consume 12 drinks or less during the year, we have about 56 percent, a majority. Yet, we who don't drink any alcohol must share the many billions in damage cost to society incurred by those who consume alcohol.

By raising the taxes on alcohol, those who drink will start paying a little more of the huge cost to our government incurred by those who drink and lighten our burden.

Since liquor taxes are so minimal and don't cover the huge cost to society, we urge all elected officials to speedily raise these taxes to help balance our budgets.

The International Organization of Good Templars, a Brotherhood, Temperance and Peace organization started in Utica, NY, in 1851, supports a policy of total abstinence from alcohol and other drugs for a better and healthier world.

— Per-Hugo Kristensson, Park Ridge

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Let's fix teacher credentialing process

The pendulum has again turned and our country faces a severe teacher shortage. Our children will always need talented and highly trained teachers and our political leaders should do everything possible to attract, train and retain them.

An important first step in Illinois would be the streamlining of the credentialing process. It's often unnecessarily cumbersome, duplicative and costly for in- and out-of-state applicants to obtain certification. Let's fix the process in Illinois.

— Jack Rocklin, Elmhurst

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want to hear from you! Send your letters to the editor to suburbanletters@tribpub.com. Letters should not exceed 250 words and should include your name, phone number and address (only your name and town will be published).
images typically receive high negative feedback. After Goodman-Helfand and Facebook wrote back and forth a few times, everything went viral and a media frenzy began. Facebook has since approved the ad.

Between the whirlwind of the Facebook fiasco and the "Face Off for Scleroderma" campaign, Goodman-Helfand has been featured on Yahoo, Fox News, ABC, The Daily Mail, People.com and countless other news sources as far away as France, Italy, Romania and Australia.

The "Face Off for Scleroderma" launch was led by a motivating, make-up free Goodman-Helfand with an enthusiastic, make-up free audience. Goodman-Helfand began with, "If I had known the face I've been desperately trying to conceal for 28 years would have done this much to elevate scleroderma awareness, I would have gone bare and beautiful years ago!"

Goodman-Helfand continued to move her audience with, "It's been very hard to deal with questioning eyes and lingering glances since the age of 10... Much of how others perceive us is based on first impressions, which are heavily rooted in how we look... I know this campaign won't change that but I'm hoping it will inspire people to look past first impressions... Let's not let the reflection in the mirror define our self-worth, self-esteem, or what we have to offer the world.

"We were then challenged to take a make-up free selfie and use social media to spread the word."

"I titled with a jubilant Goodman-Helfand the day after the "Face Off" launch. "The initial rejection from Facebook was auto-
mated, from an algorithm, but was still an emotional blow," said Goodman-Helfand. "I started wondering about how our society defines beauty and how that relates to us as we become more digitalized. There's a constant race toward perfection and presenting ourselves flawlessly. How much time do we think about how someone will judge us by our appearance and what can we do with that extra time if we stopped worrying about that?"

"Well, it's only been 24 hours, but I can already tell you what a tremendously positive difference that perspective has made in my personal life. I just went out without makeup for the first time in my life. I've decided if someone doesn't accept me, it's more of a reflection on them, than me."

"I am one of the most fortunate scleroderma patients," adds Goodman-Helfand. "There are so many people much worse off and they need help."

To contact Goodman-Helfand or participate in the "Face Off for Scleroderma" challenge, visit www.comfortableinmythickskin.com.

For more information on Scleroderma, visit www.scleroderma.org.
There was a time when you could walk into airports without worrying about metal detectors. You could greet friends — or even celebrities — as they exited airplanes, coming down stairs right onto the tarmac.

“It breaks my heart that that era has vanished forever,” says Christopher Lynch, who grew up near Chicago’s Midway Airport.

Lynch is doing his part to preserve memories of that time. Lynch, who now lives in Chicago’s West Rogers Park neighborhood, co-wrote a new book with Buffalo Grove resident Neal Samors called “Now Arriving: Traveling to and From Chicago by Air, 90 Years of Flight.”

The pages are packed with photos of Midway and O'Hare International Airport in the mid-20th century — including a who’s who of film stars, politicians and other famous people arriving on the runway, ranging from the Three Stooges, to John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon. And the book features essays by people such as TV news reporters Paul Meincke and Jim Tilmont (who was also a commercial airline pilot), and Mary Frances Veeck, the widow of White Sox owner Bill Veeck.

“The idea was not to do an analytical history about flying in Chicago. It was more personal stories, and what the experience was like,” says Samors, who has written, co-written or published 24 books on Chicago and its neighborhoods, many of them through his own imprint, Chicago’s Books Press.

Fascinated by Midway since he was a child, Lynch has written two previous books: “Chicago’s Midway Airport: The First Seventy-Years” and “When Hollywood Landed at Chicago’s Midway Airport,” which focused on photographer Mike Rotunno, who died in 1994, and his pictures of air-traveling celebrities.

“Struggled to find photos, because the family had only 300, 400 pictures,” Lynch recalls. “And then literally the day the book was published, I got a call from a person who had bought Mike Rotunno’s house 40 years after he moved out of it in Berwyn. They were in the attic, and they discovered 1,400 negatives from the 1930s. Those were totally lost history that no one had ever seen.”

Those rediscovered photos by Rotunno feature prominently in the new book by Lynch and Samors, including images of Eleanor Roosevelt sitting down in the airport coffee shop and John Wayne striding across the tarmac. The book also reproduces pages from a book of celebrity autographs collected by Johnny Latone in the 1930s, when he was a teenager selling newspapers at Chicago Municipal Airport (as the airport was known until it was Midway in 1949).

When famous people got off an airplane, “he’d sell them a newspaper and ask them if he could get an autograph,” Samors says. “These movie stars — very famous people — took the time to talk to Johnny and sign the book,” Lynch says.

As “Now Arriving” spells out in its chronology, Midway was the world’s busiest airport until O’Hare (originally named Orchard Field) took over that title. The book’s images of O’Hare include some from United Airlines’ corporate archives.

Both co-authors have spent countless hours at these airports. Lynch’s family ran Monarch Air Service at Midway, so he got to hang out there as a kid in the 1970s. Samors worked for 25 years at Educational Testing Service, a job that sent him on about 500 flights.

“I flew so much that people at Philadelphia and Newark and here knew me by first name,” Samors recalls. “It was fun traveling.”


‘Now Arriving: Traveling to and From Chicago by Air, 90 Years of Flight’
Info: Chicago’s Books Press, 208 pages, $39.50
Event: Neal Samors and Christopher Lynch will speak about their book (along with Joseph Schwieterman, author of “Terminal Town”) at 6 p.m. Sept. 8 at the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St, Chicago.
For more: www.chicagosbooks.com
Connection and compassion. That's what you need to be a caring emergency room and hospice nurse. Those two traits work equally well for a cabaret artist. Longtime Evanston resident Janet Sanzo is both.

You can learn how Sanzo's two careers are connected at "Here's to Life: Celebrating Seasons," Aug. 22 at the Skokie Theatre.

"People often ask me, 'How do you go from being a nurse to being a singer?" Sanzo said. "I don't think they're that far afield really. With nursing, you're taking care of individuals. You're opening up your heart. And it's pretty much the same thing with singing."

Sanzo noted that her upcoming show is "a little more personal than some of the others I've done at Davenport's or Uncommon Ground as much as we're going to be talking about the lifespan - celebrating the seasons of the year - but also the seasons of our years.

"I've had such a wild ride over the past year and a half. I lost a friend tragically who was very dear to me and, within the same year, I have one lovely daughter who is engaged to be married in October and my other daughter is expecting a baby." (That baby was born shortly after we spoke.)

Sanzo noted that many of the songs in her show reflect on those life experiences. "I've chosen, I think, some wonderful tunes to carry these messages," she said. "I'm going to do a little Motown. Gonna do a little blues. We're going to have a ball."

Selections will include "Fields of Gold," "Baby, It's Cold Outside," "When You Are Old and Gray," "When October Goes," "I Hope You Dance" and "You Made Me Feel So Young."

The Baltimore native performed at the Catskills and on USO tours before moving to the Chicago area more than 30 years ago. A graduate of the Catholic University of America, Sanzo earned a master's degree in expressive therapy (art and dance) from Lesley University in Cambridge, Mass. She then earned a nursing degree from Loyola University.

Sanzo, who has worked at Evanston, Skokie, Glenbrook and Highland Park Hospitals, stopped working as a nurse in January.

"I left that for a little while to concentrate on music," she explained.

The singer is very aware of the impact her cabaret shows can have on people. "People come up after the shows and they hold me and they cry; they say, 'I can relate to that,'" she noted. "The way I can relate to that is they feel something resonating inside of them. They know that feeling. We're connected as human beings and you're validating something inside of me."
The world premiere musical "October Sky" about four friends in rural West Virginia who become inspired by the launch of Sputnik.

"October Sky"

When: Aug. 19-Oct. 11
Where: Marriott Theatre, 10 Marriott Drive, Lincolnshire
Tickets: $45-$55
Contact: 847-634-0200; www.MarriottTheatre.com

bluegrass, rockabilly and first-generation rock 'n roll.

The musical "Hero," which premiered at Marriott in 2012, was a hit with both critics and ticket buyers and picked up several Jeff Awards.

But awards aren't the point, says Mahler. "I want people to see through this show that no matter how crazy it is, if you follow through and do the work, your dreams can come true. I'm not talking about a sitting around thinking, 'oh, wouldn't it be nice if that happened?' I'm talking about realizing that maybe you have the power to make it happen."
FAMILY FRIENDLY

Flamingos join the fun with Wendy and DB

BY MYRNA PETLICKI
Pioneer Press

Pink socks will become highly animated hand puppets during the song, "Pink Flamingo." That's one of the fun activities in store for children up to age 5, with a caregiver, during Summer Fun with Wendy and DB, 10-11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, at Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave.

The pair will perform other selections from their new album, "It's a Doo Da Day," including "Yes I Can," "I Love My Body" and "It's OK Being You."

"This CD is really positive," said Wendy Morgan. "It's all really light with upbeat rhythms."

The pair will also sing numbers from their earlier CD, "Pocket's Seasons Rhymes & Reasons," including the crowd-pleasing "People are People."

"It's always interactive," Morgan said of their shows. That includes kids' involvement in the aforementioned "Flamingo" number. "I dyed 150 white socks pink," the performer revealed. "We go through all the actions of a flamingo."

Registration is requested but drop-ins are welcome.

For details, call 847-677-5277, ext. 23 or go to www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org or www.wendyanddb.com.

Yo, Ho, Ho!

There will be no landlubbers during Pirate Day, 12:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 23, at Hinkley Pool, 25 Busse Hwy., Park Ridge.

Parents are encouraged to bring their kids for all kinds of pirate fun, including searching for "pirate booty" and peg-leg races. The event is free with regular pool admission fees.

For details, call 847-692-6602 or go to www.prparks.org.

Rootin' tootin' time

Kids will sing, play and beep along with a truck during a storytime devoted to "Little Blue Truck's Beep-Along Book" by Alice Schertle, 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, at Barnes and Noble, 55 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. The interactive board book has a built-in plush truck that beeps.

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

Brave birds

Skipper, Rico, Kowalski and Private go undercover to preserve their habitat at Central Park Zoo in "Penguins of Madagascar." The 92-minute, PG-rated film will be shown at 1 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 23, in the Youth Services Program Room at Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St.

For details, call 847-673-7774 or go to www.skokielibrary.info.

Rags to riches

A pumpkin is transformed into a coach, mice become footmen and a glass slipper changes the life of an overworked young girl in "Cinderella." The classic G-rated, 76-minute film, which never loses its magic, will be screened at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, at Niles Public Library, 6960 Oakton St.

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

A portrait can reveal powerful things about an individual, a time or a place. And no one tells the stories of Chicagoans and visitors to the Second City better than the Chicago Tribune. Chicago Portraits is a stunning new coffee-table book that brings together the Tribune's best portraits from the past 150 years, including powerful images of everyday Chicagoans, actors, artists, athletes and politicians.

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ARE YOU FULL OF IDEAS?

Here’s a thought: start a blog

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chicagonow.com/pitch
Golf-Tennis Classic raises $160,000 for Avenues

Event: 27th annual Avenues/Gorman Golf and Tennis Classic
Benefiting: Avenues to Independence, Park Ridge
Location: Park Ridge Country Club
Attended: 246
Date: July 20

Raised: $160,000, which brought the fundraising total since the event's inception to more than $2,500,000 in support of Avenues' mission to help individuals with physical, intellectual and other developmental disabilities live full lives.
Website: avenuesindependence.org
Your local church shared this photo.

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nilesheraldspectator.com/community

NILES HERALD-SPECTATOR
Dumpster divers
Cruise chef feeds 3,000 at once

By Judy Buchenot
The Beacon-News

Deciding what to feed the family each week and then figuring out how much chicken, beef and other needed ingredients to buy is a common challenge to face. But that weekly shopping trip is nothing compared to the weekly order compiled by Biju Jacob, chef de cuisine for the Carnival Conquest cruise ship.

Imagine shopping for a week's worth of meals for over 3,000 people and you come close to the continuing culinary challenge faced by this chef.

Jacob completed his education in hotel management and culinary arts and was working in a fine dining restaurant specializing in French cuisine for several years when he was approached by the cruise line with an offer to start cooking on the seas. He joined Carnival in 1995 and has been sailing and sauteing for 20 years.

"The main difference between working in a regular restaurant and on a cruise ship is that you do not have the luxury to go shopping in the middle of the week if you run out of something," he said.

Instead, Jacob orders replenishment of his 1,500 different food ingredients once a week. There are several factors that affect each order. The guest count is obviously important, but so are the ages of the guests.

"If the guest count is 3,000 and there are 1,000 children, I need to be sure to order more ice cream, ice cream cones, hamburgers and pizza," he said.

"Any change in the demographics of the guests usually affects the things I order." There are numerous other factors, including carefully planning for perishable food needs, rotating stock and avoiding over-ordering an item. He also has to have an additional three-day reserve of food in case of a hurricane or technical emergency. No matter what happens, Jacob needs to be able to satisfy the hunger of thousands of guests.

In addition to planning for meals, Jacob has to be sure the meals are prepared with consistent excellence at 10 different eating locations - from a high-end steakhouse to a gourmet restaurant-style dining room to an onboard pizza parlor.

"We have recipes for each item that must be carefully followed," Jacob said. "I continually check for quality and flavor."

He said he personally trains all new staff so he knows they understand his standards.

Appearance is also important, especially in the formal dining rooms. Food is carefully arranged on pristine white plates. Lightly browned potato slices are alternated with tender glazed carrot slices to create a fanlike accent to the thick slice of prime rib shimmering with a light glaze. Sauces are drizzled or brushed on in decorative patterns, accenting the precisely cut slice of cappuccino pie or shimmering souffle.

"I have a team of 142 who work on the culinary art," Jacob said.

Equally important are the flavor palates. A thick slice of seasoned pork is cradled on a bed of cubed baked apples for a delicious combination of sweet and savory. Even a serving of peas is given attention by being nestled in a ramekin, mixed with steamed fresh cranberry halves and then lightly seasoned with butter.

Jacob's specialty are the sauces. "I take pride in the sauces and stocks we make," he said. "I enjoy making the sauces and checking to make sure there is the right proportion of bones to water and the right thickness to each sauce."

The many desserts prepared in his kitchen also require care.

"Working with chocolate requires having just the right temperature to keep the shine," he said. The warm chocolate melting cake with a crispy chocolate top that falls open to a rich molten chocolate interior is a guest favorite.

Although there are many familiar dishes, Jacob said a goal of his staff is to use the kitchen to provide eating adventures. Each dinner, guests may choose to order an item to try that is not typical dinner fare like frog legs, escargot and alligator fritters.

"I think the most popular dinner item is the lobster tail," he said. "The boneless rib-eye roast is very popular, though."

In addition to presentation and flavor, timing is imperative, Jacob said.

"In 20 minutes, we serve 2,000 plates of food, which have to be correctly prepared and hot," he said.

This feat is repeated at two seatings each evening. While these meals are being served in the dining rooms, there are two buffet lines, room service, a fine dining restaurant and four specialty restaurants also in operation. To show his appreciation to his culinary team of 1,200, Jacob plans four special food events for them each month.

The planning and execution of cruise ship cuisine is so fascinating that a few years ago, Carnival began offering an "excursion" that provides a look behind the scenes. The spaces are limited and always sell out to devoted foodies who are awed by this level of culinary competence.

Jacob is from southern India, and his wife and two daughters have been able to join him on the cruise ship on occasion.

"I enjoy the challenge of all this," he said, gesturing toward his kitchen. "I am going to put our plate after plate of food he has ordered, planned and orchestrated."

He pulls aside a culinary staff member for a quick comment, and moments later, like magic, a lavish plate of desserts that look almost too lovely to touch appears. In a gesture of continuing generosity, Jacob offers the recipe for the warm chocolate melting cake for everyone to try at home.

"Iuda Buchenot is a freelance reporter for The Beacon-News.

Find more suburban cooks on page 4.
Where to find the classic Lobster roll

By Veronica Hinke
Pioneer Press

Summer is peak season for lobster, and while New England is the birthplace of the lobster roll, we're not out of the loop in Chicago. We've rounded up some tasty, local variations.

“Our biggest selling sandwich roll is, by far, our lobster roll,” said Nancy Burhop of Burhop's in Glenview and Hinsdale.

To find their prototype, Burhop and her husband, Jeff Burhop, studied lobster rolls in their birthplace — New England. They came up with their take by “visiting friends in Boston, and eating as many lobster rolls as possible — a tough job, but somebody had to do it,” Nancy Burhop said.

The winner? A toasted New England-style bun split from the top ("it is not a hot dog bun") Burhop insisted filled with Maine lobster meat.

"It’s rich, buttery with a nice firm, but not chewy, texture," she said. "We add a little mayo and green onion."

Chef Fructoso Sandoval with Lucky Fish Deli in Highwood flavors his lobster roll with chopped celery.

"I put the recipe together myself, sampling different styles, until I knew I created a winner with the best flavor and consistency," he said. "It’s sweet, buttery Cajun flavor with a hint of lime. The texture is tender and moist."

Sandoval also showcases lobster in tacos, quesadillas, salads and soups. But his favorite way to eat lobster is just plain grilled.

When shopping for lobster, Sandoval said to shop for small, cold water lobsters that are dark in color.

"The smaller and darker they are the more tender and sweet they taste," he said.

Chef Choco Chavez sticks to the original lobster roll recipe first used when Davis Street Fishmarket opened 30 years ago in Evanston.

"It’s sour and sweet with a nice lemony bite to it," Chavez said. "As lobster lovers know, this is the time of year when lobsters are the freshest and it is the best time to eat them — on a nice summer evening with a glass of chardonnay."

At The Cellar at The Stained Glass Bistro in Evanston Victor Hernandez makes what he considers a traditional lobster roll with modifications. He uses arugula in place of bibb or butter lettuce and exchanges the hot dog bun for a brioche, which adds a sweet, buttery flavor balanced out by the bite of the peppery arugula," he said. A citrus acid in a side of coleslaw helps cut through the rich lobster.

"Lobster in general should have a soft texture, the coleslaw adds a nice crunch that works well with the flaky bun," he said.

At Oceanaire in Evanston, chef/owner Mark Grosz puts a spin on the classic lobster roll with an upmarket open-face sandwich with homemade saffron-togarashi aioli and seared foie gras.

"Two of my favorite things — lobster and foie gras," he said. "For making lobster at home, Grosz recommends working with live 1-pound lobsters and boiling them in a large pot for three minutes.

"Most people overcook lobster," he said. Remove the lobster from the pot and let it rest for five minutes. Then, remove it from the shell, slice it and keep it warm.

At Di Pescara in Northbrook, executive chef/partner Mychael Bonner's lobster roll is flavored with parsley, tarragon, celery and fresh lime.

"Some drawn butter with garlic on the side and I am a happy camper," Bonner said.

Lobster Roll

Serves 4

1. In a medium to large bowl, combine mayonnaise, celery, fresh herbs and lime; stir to combine. Add the lobster to the bowl, and toss well. Add salt and pepper to taste.

2. Brush the outside of the hotdog buns with melted butter, and grill the outside to add color.

3. Divide the lobster mixture among the four buns, and garnish with lettuce.

— Mychael Bonner, Di Pescara

Maine Lobster Sandwich

Serves 4

1. Boil lobster in water for 3 minutes. Remove and let rest in a bowl for 5 minutes. Remove meat from shell and slice thinly.

2. Toast brioche. Meanwhile mix arugula, watermelon radish and fennel with shallots, 2 tablespoons olive oil, lemon juice, salt and black pepper. Spread 1 tablespoon aioli onto each piece of brioche and add lobster meat, finishing with arugula salad. Sear foie gras in hot pan until golden brown on both sides. Let rest on plate. Season with salt and pepper.

SAFFRON-TOGARASHI AIOLI

1. Put egg yolks, garlic, juice, saffron and togarashi in blender and pulse for 10 seconds. Slowly add olive oil and canola oil at high speed until thick and creamy and all oil is used. Season with salt and pepper.

— Mark Grosz, Oceanaire

ANJALI PINTO

Lobster flavored with lime, tarragon, parsley, celery and chives fill Mychael Bonner's lobster roll at Di Pescara.
Camp cook relies on Dutch oven

By Judy Buchenot
Naperville Sun

Camping in the great outdoors means giving up a few of life’s luxuries, like a soft mattress and television, to enjoy some of nature’s luxuries, like being awakened by a splendid sunrise and being serenaded by birds.

Roughing it may mean giving up a few comforts, but it does not have to apply to your meals. Just ask the Boy Scouts, who camp year-round in all kinds of weather. They may have to eat their meal out of a simple mess kit while sitting on a log, but that’s what a meal it is.

Tim Seeden is one of scouting’s camping chefs supreme. He began his scouting career when he was 8 years old and has continued to “be prepared” for 41 years.

Four months ago, Seeden officially made a home for the full-time position as director of support services for the Three Fires Council, which serves troops in Naperville, Aurora and 11 other districts throughout Northern Illinois. He now oversees properties, programs and other activities for the organization. He is an Eagle Scout and a member of the order of the arrow, an honorary society of scouts who exemplify the ideals of scouting.

Cooking in the great outdoors is one scouting ideal that Seeden enjoys. Over the years he has introduced many boys to the fundamentals of cooking during campouts.

"Some boys know a few things about cooking, but then there are those new scouts who have no idea how to even cut up a carrot," he said. "We show them how to make eggs, which helps prepare them for life. I think a turning point is when they fry their first piece of bacon and flip their first flapjack. Once they have done that, there is no turning back. They are ready to try everything!"

Seeden also said there is a secret ingredient to camping cooking, which is "everything just tastes better when it is cooked outdoors!"

The Scouts cook some things such as scrambled eggs, sausage and bacon on propane-powered camp stoves, but for meals that feed hungry scouts, the Dutch oven is the tool of choice. These heavy cast-iron pots are designed for outdoor cooking with lids to hold glowing coals.

"Typically, we put twice as many coals on the top as we do on the bottom," Seeden said. The hot coals heat the heavy cast-iron pot to create an oven-like atmosphere on the interior suitable for cooking everything from roasts to cheesecake.

Scout leaders often get creative with their Dutch oven skills and periodically compete. Seeden was in competition with 40 other leaders and chose to put together a seven rib prime roast in his Dutch oven.

"I seasoned the roast first. Then I put a layer of coarse salt on the bottom of the Dutch oven," he said. "I put the roast in and packed coarse salt around it. I cooked it in this salt crust that sealed in the juices. Then I chipped off the crust to serve it." The roast was the winner, and Seeden happily shared the meal with his fellow scouts.

Seeden said he likes to bake items such as cheesecakes or pizza in pans inside the Dutch oven. He found round pans that fit inside the oven and then found four fairly flat rocks that he places on the bottom of the oven to prop up the pan.

The rocks have helped him make many camp gourmet dishes including a cheesecake which he topped with strawberries.

There are a few innovative extras that help with Dutch oven cooking, including a cooking stand that is like a table that can hold three Dutch ovens. Coals are placed on the lower level of the table so that the ground is not scorched by the coals.

"Scouts are very focused on leaving no trace, and we clean up our sites completely so the table is great for that," Seeden said. The final lesson of Dutch oven cooking, according to Seeden, is "there is always hope with a Dutch oven. Even if the outside is burnt, the inside can still be good. This is the meal we have for dinner so we eat it. There are no fast food places."

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer.
What legal life documents should I have in place?

Do you know which legal life documents you should have in place in the event that you become infirm or die? Jonathan Michael, an estate and business succession planning attorney at Burke, Warren, MacKay & Serrettell in Chicago, shares the following advice: “Many people are overwhelmed by the decisions needed to implement their estate planning goals. Although there is no ‘one-size-fits-all’ approach to estate planning, married couples with children should consider the following documents.”

**Power of attorney for property**

This authorizes an agent to make financial decisions for the principal. These powers can range from broad, e.g., an agent makes all decisions regarding the principal’s assets; to narrow, e.g., the agent attends a house closing for the sale of the principal’s residence.

**Power of attorney for health care**

This enables the principal to designate an agent to make health care decisions if the principal is unable to do so. It can even extend to authorizing the agent to make decisions regarding the withdrawal of life-sustaining treatments. The principal must give careful consideration to the specified decisions and discuss them with his/her family.

**Will**

This document is created to reflect an individual’s wishes with regard to the following questions: What do I own? Who do I wish to benefit? When should the individuals or charities I wish to benefit receive their portion of my estate? Who should be in charge of making certain my wishes are fulfilled? A will is a revocable document. Therefore, if you execute a will and later change your mind about any of its provisions, you are free to make modifications. A will identifies an executor who acts as the legal representative of the testator’s estate after death.

The executor is tasked with carrying out many of the estate’s administrative tasks, including collecting the deceased’s assets, settling creditor claims, paying taxes owed by the estate and distributing assets to beneficiaries. It may be preferable to utilize a third party, such as an adviser or professional fiduciary, like a bank. Married couples with minor children should additionally designate a guardian (or two guardians) of their minor children in their wills.

**Living trust**

This is an instrument often used for their primary estate planning needs. By establishing a living trust and transferring title of assets to it while alive, the grantor or settlor avoids a separate court proceeding to administer the assets after death. As a result of property not being probated, associated legal fees can be saved. Although a living trust does not provide estate tax benefits in and of itself, it is advantageous for avoiding probate. The settlor can revoke the living trust at any time and is entitled to all assets and income in the trust while alive and competent. The trust should provide that if a settlor becomes incapacitated and unable to tend to his finances, the named successor trustee will use the living trust assets to provide for the health, maintenance and support of the settlor. Upon the settlor’s death, the assets of the living trust will be distributed to the settlor’s beneficiaries. However, the settlor can be the sole trustee while alive.

There are certain tax and non-tax benefits to using this instrument that should be discussed with an attorney.

Send your questions to HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com.

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

CATHY CUNNINGHAM
Help Squad

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Dog day care: How to find the best fit for your pup

By Vicki Salemi
Tribune Newspapers

Day care for your dog? For some pet owners and their pooches, it's the best solution.

Dog trainer and behavior consultant Jonathan Klein says day care can be very beneficial, especially for dogs with separation anxieties or home-alone issues.

"Day care can provide stimulation and activities for a dog when it would otherwise be alone and stressed or bored," Klein said.

Doing your research is key because day care is not heavily regulated, said Stephen Zowistowski, science adviser emeritus for the ASPCA.

Here are several guidelines to consider.

Assess your dog: Klein, also principal of I Said Sit! in Los Angeles, recommends hiring a trainer or dog behavior consultant. A session can range from $60 to $250, depending on the market.

"They would have a better notion of what might be really good for a given dog," Klein said. Two places to start a search: the websites of the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants and the Association of Professional Dog Trainers.

Tour the facilities: New York-based pet behaviorist Carolyn Georgariou suggests making an unscheduled visit. Be skeptical of facilities only offering scheduled tours during off-hours. And per the ASPCA, look for toys, nap spots and good customer service.

Staff should be courteous to humans as well as their dogs.

Expect behavioral evaluations: Many facilities evaluate dogs before enrolling them. Centers often ask questions regarding interaction with other dogs, such as going to a dog park and if you have additional dogs at home, Zowistowski said.

Ask how dogs are grouped: "Dogs should be grouped not only by size but also by compatible play style or temperament," Klein said. He recommends checking out each room's size.

Stay current with vaccinations: The ASPCA advises asking your veterinarian which vaccinations are right for your dog. "Dog owners should always consult with their vet for medical advice; however, sometimes the facility may require something that their vet doesn't," said veterinarian David Gonsky. Gonsky said the day care centers should "definitely ask for proof of vaccination. If they don't ask, that's a red flag."

Evaluate costs: "One cannot get good day care cheap," Georgariou said. "The cheaper the rate, the more crowded the day care will be." Consumer website CostPer.com reports daily rates across the U.S. ranging from $12 to $38; monthly rates, $240 to $550.

Ask about worst-case scenarios and certifications: The ASPCA recommends asking if employees are trained in animal first aid and CPR as well as what the protocol is in the event of emergency illness or injury. Zowistowski advises looking for certificates indicating employees have been professionally trained as animal caretakers and confirming that the facility is appropriately licensed. Paperwork should indicate the facility has been inspected by the health department and has obtained a legal permit to operate its business.

Pursue other options: Day care may not be appropriate if your pet is a frail, senior dog or anxious, fearful or rambunctious.

"Sometimes we think that every dog needs the same thing," Zowistowski said. "There are quite a few dogs who enjoy just chilling out all day."

Factors to look at when seeking dog day care include spaciousness and the staff-to-dog ratio.

His advice? Consider other available options, asking yourself, "What is good for the dog as opposed to what is good for me? What would the dog really like as opposed to what would I really like?" Consider hiring a dog walker or pet sitter.

Vicki Salemi is a freelance reporter.

PET OF THE WEEK

Dancer is a beautiful 3-year-old tan and white pit bull looking for her new forever home. She would benefit from an active family who enjoys walking, running, hiking, etc. She is playful, social and charismatic. She loves everyone she meets so hurry on over to meet her today.

For additional information, please visit www.southsuburbanhumane society.org.
My fascination with Jennifer Aniston began in 1995 when the then "Friends" star became America's "it" girl. She was sweet and funny and beautiful, and like millions of other admirers, I asked my hair stylist for "the Jennifer Aniston haircut."

Since then, I've seen almost every movie Aniston has ever been in, including favorites like "Office Space," "The Good Girl," "Along Came Polly," "The Breakup" and "He's Just Not That Into You."

I also have watched Aniston's love life pretty closely over the past two decades, and my take is she's no stranger to heartbreak. I'll start with her divorce from Brad Pitt. But even after that, Aniston's relationships with John Mayer and Vince Vaughn made it seem like the megastar who was ultra successful professionally just couldn't get it right when it came to love.

So, when I heard last week that Aniston married Justin Theroux, her boyfriend of four years, I was delighted to see that maybe, just maybe, Jennifer got her happy ending. Or did she?

I hope the newlyweds are blissful until they are old and gray, but the fact is, marriage isn't easy. Anyone will attest to that, especially those who are divorced.

As a wedding gift to my girlfriend, Jennifer Aniston, I decided to pool some marriage advice from a bunch of divorced men and women. I asked them, "If you had one piece of advice for a newly married couple, what would it be?"

Here are some of the responses I received:

- Always talk it out and always say you're sorry.
- Remain each other's favorite companion and don't let your kids take that role someday.
- Treat your partner as an equal.
- Talk about finances ... How will we budget and pay for expenses? How are WE going to spend OUR money; define mine and yours. There is nothing wrong with having this conversation. Unfortunately, it doesn't take place often enough!
- Like each other in addition to loving each other.
- Seek to accept, support and encourage your partner, gently, so as not to violate acceptance. If partnership is seen as the beginning of a journey of self-discovery, it is a true gift and blessing. If it is seen as an end-result of a long search and filled with entitlement and expectation, it is a certain trip to disappointment.
- True success in relationships comes from a mutual acknowledgment that each is imperfect (but chosen and loved anyway) and a mutual agreement that each will honor the partnership by looking inside for peace, acceptance and, if possible, positive change.
- I want to add one more:

Every couple has issues, and over time, both internal and external factors will test the strength of the marriage. The difference between couples that survive and those that don't comes down to one word: commitment. In other words, survivors make the choice not to give up. And, I believe that choice might just be the difference between love and true love.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.
ROUNDUP | SCIENCE FICTION

Three Moments of an Explosion
By China Miéville, Del Rey, 388 pages, $27
After a burst of productivity between 2009 and 2012, during which he published a novel a year, each in a different genre ("The City & the City," "Kraken," "Embassytown" and "Railsea"), the brilliant English writer China Miéville seems to have taken a much-deserved break. But as "Three Moments of an Explosion" demonstrates, he hasn't exactly gone silent. His first short fiction collection in 10 years, it should reassure his many fans that the bizarre imagination that virtually defined the movement called the "New Weird" is as unfettered as ever. Giant icebergs mysteriously appear in the skies over England ("Polynia"), ocean oil rigs uproot themselves and march ashore like H.G. Wells's Martians ("Covenhithor"), a medical student finds the bones of a cadaver impossibly engraved with what appear to be scrimshaw designs ("The Design"), a secret society is formed by card players who have shared the rare experience of encountering mysterious cards like the Eight of Chains or the Dowager of Bees ("The Dowager of Bees"). Eighteen of the 28 stories are new, and several others have been published in such obscure venues that few of Miéville's most devoted readers are likely to have seen them. Some, like "The Design," are haunting, fully realized tales, while others are little more than sketches or fragments—film scripts for the trailers of imaginary movies ("The Crawl," "Escape," "Listen the Birds"), the syllabus for a strange college class ("Syllabus"), a manifesto of an imaginary art movement ("A Second Slice Manifesto"), even rules for an imaginary card game ("Rules"). Even these shorter bits are provocative, each suggesting an entire strange world beyond the frame of the story, a world that remains Miéville's alone.

Chasing the Phoenix
By Michael Swanwick, Tor, 316 pages, $26.99
In a handful of stories and one previous novel, Michael Swanwick has chronicled the far-future comic adventures of a fast-talking duo of con artists called Darger and Surplus. While Darger is so nondescript as to be almost anonymous, Surplus is dramatically distinctive—a genetically tweaked dog who talks and walks upright and whose full name is Sir Blackthorpe Ravenscairn de Plus Precieux. The low-tech world they inhabit, described as "post-utopian" (implying that the utopian age is our own) is still trying to recover from an ancient catastrophe when artificial intelligences "rose up out of the fabled Internet, and almost destroyed civilization" before being subdued, leading to a world in which technology is all but forbidden. In "Chasing the Phoenix," Surplus arrives in a fragmented China bearing the preserved corpse of Darger and seeking the services of a rumored Infallible Physician to restore him to life. Soon they encounter a variety of other characters, all with those metaphorical names (Capable Servant, Powerful Locomotive, Bright Prosperity), and learn that the Hidden King is seeking to expand his domain with the aid of a brilliant woman archaeologist who can restore some of the ancient weapons, such as giant mechanical spiders and even a nuclear warhead. Through sheer bluff and bravado, oblivious to the chaos they leave in their wake, Darger and Surplus rise to positions of power in a grand scheme to reunite the Chinese empire. Veteran fantasy readers will recognize Swanwick's duo as descendants of, and a tribute to, Fritz Leiber's beloved old sword and sorcery stories of an equally larcenous duo named Fathrd and the Gray Mouser, but Swanwick's snappy dialogue and satirical barbs are entirely his own.

CHICAGOLAND BEST-SELLERS

3. "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates (Spiegel & Grau, $24).
4. "Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania" by Erik Larson (Crown, $28).

Participating bookstores: Barbara's Bookstores (Chicago), The Book Cellar (Chicago), The Book Stall at Chestnut Court (Winnetka), Women & Children First Bookstore (Chicago), The Book Table (Oak Park), The Bookstore (Glen Ellyn), The Book Bin (Northbrook).
Body Language

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across
1  Italian treats
5  Babble
10  Drying oven
14  Ball film role
15  Miller's salesman
16  Entreaty
17  Hearken
20  Decorative ribbon
21  "... so -- a day in June?"
22  Scott of history
23  Give the eye
24  Abrogate legislation
27  Elusive needle locale
31  Adam and Eve raft: greasy-spoon slang
32  Principle
34  Perfume oil
35  Hubbubs
37  Exhausts
39  Environmental prefix
40  Conductor Georg
42  Biological subdivision
44  "... got the whole world"
45  Victories
47  Doughnut cousins
49  Separate

Across
50  Bitty predecessor
51  Dark dye
54  Stand
58  Surrender
60  List-ending abbreviation
61  The Real McCoy
62  Overtime causes
64  Actor Keach
65  Author Ferber

Down
1  Rascals
2  Shopper's aid
3  Moslem bigwig
4  Withdraw
5  Small tuft
6  Lassoed
7  Love god
8  The Joy Luck Club author
9  Vigor
10  Sweethearts, e.g.
11  Wings
12  Evening in Enna
13  USSR news agency
18  Gold weight unit
19  Latin music style
23  Like many cereals
24  Swelter
25  Biblical witch's home
26  Indiana town
27  "... to ladies who lunch"
28  -- drop of a hat
29  Bedouin transport
30  Kris -- pint-sized rappers
33  Evening
36  In a dumb (and dumber) way
38  Finesse
41  Insect stage
43  Cloy
46  Sneaks around
48  Whirl
50  Architectural style
51  "... a song go out of my heart"
52  Western acronym
53  Actress Cannon
54  Sari's Roman relation
55  Like the dust bowl
56  Some Feds
57  US weather agency
59  Jersey pro

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

B (Barbara) Ehrenreich: Liberation: Of all the nasty outcomes predicted for women's liberation none of them was more alarming, from a feminist point of view, than the silly suggestion that women would sooner or later become just like men.

Last week's Sudoku

This week's Jumble

THWART INDUCT LAWYER TIMELY FUNGUS COERCE
A crowd was gathering to see the amazing kite after people —
CAUGHT WIND
OF IT

By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2015 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Solutions

ACROSS
1 Wild feline
5 White adhesive
10 Taps gently
14 Bewildered
15 Customary
16 Resound
17 Walkway
18 Onassis, to
20 Egypt's continent: abbr.
21 Get rid of
22 Say hello to
23 Furry swimmer
25 Brief life sketch
26 Calf-length pants
28 Lima, for one
32 Sister's daughter
34 Long-tailed rodent
36 Stubborn as a
37 Camera maker
38 Bread for a gyro
39 Fraternity letter
40 Manor and its property
41 Baked donut-shaped roll
42 Take a pension
43 Press with force
44 Express delight
45 Rush
46 Obama's running mate

47 No longer together
50 Can covers
51 Sit-up targets, for short
54 Draw pictures for a book
57 Boring
58 Journals
59 Broader
60 Additionally
61 Hit flies
62 Deep pit
63 Small child
64 Cots and cribs
65 Sleep under the stars
66 Worms and tiny fishes
67 Expression for short
68 Express delight
69 At someone's and call
70 Sleep under the stars
71 Express delight
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Interactive puzzles and games
Study: Sexting may improve your love life

By Nara Schoenberg
Chicago Tribune

Sexting has been linked to bullying, revenge porn and former congressman Anthony Weiner, who resigned after it was revealed that he had inappropriate online exchanges with at least seven women.

Now for the good news.

In an online survey of 870 Americans, ages 18 to 82, Drexel University researchers found that higher levels of sexting, or exchanging explicit messages or photos via text, was associated with higher sexual satisfaction. The researchers, who presented their findings at the recent American Psychological Association convention in Toronto, also found that for those in less committed relationships, more sexting is linked to higher relationship satisfaction.

"To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study that deals with satisfaction — sexual and relationship — as an outcome of sexting," says Emily Stasko, a doctoral student in psychology who did the research with Drexel associate professor of psychology Pamela Geller. "We found sexting can have a role in a happy, healthy, sexually satisfying relationship.

Preliminary findings from the study were presented at the APA convention in Toronto; Stasko says that she and Geller are in the process of submitting a broader paper on their findings to a peer-reviewed journal.

Study participants were recruited online, so they may have been more tech-savvy than the general population, Stasko says. And they clicked on a link to answer a survey about sexting, so it's possible that they're unusually big sexters.

Of the 870 participants, 88 percent had sexted, and 82 percent had done so in the past year. What was more interesting to the researchers was the context in which sexting took place: 74 percent of the participants had sexted in the context of a committed relationship, 43 percent had sexted in a casual relationship, and only 12 percent had sexted in a cheating relationship.

The relationship between more sexting and higher sexual satisfaction was robust for both more and less committed couples, Stasko said.

The relationship between sexting and relationship satisfaction was more nuanced. Sexting was associated with higher relationship satisfaction for all but the most committed couples. For the most committed couples, it mattered if the sexting was actually wanted. When the sexting was generally wanted, more sexting was linked with higher relationship satisfaction. When there were higher levels of unwanted (but consensual) sexting, higher levels of sexting were linked with lower relationship satisfaction.

Bianca Klettke, co-author of a 2014 review of the sexting studies that appeared in Clinical Psychology Review, said in an email exchange that sexting can indeed have relationship-enhancing properties, but consent in these cases can also be abused — for instance, if sexts are distributed after the breakup of a relationship.

Klettke, a lecturer at Deakin University in Australia, also said that for teenagers, rates of depression are higher after sexting.

Stasko says that it still isn't known if sexting causes higher sexual satisfaction, or if people who have better sexual relationships are more likely to text.

If sexting is actually shown to have a positive impact in future studies, it might be incorporated in couples therapy, or in individual therapy for people who want to build sexual self-confidence, she said.

"In general, we don't talk about sexting as something positive, so I think it will take more than one study to convince people that this can be more than something that is dangerous or bad," Stasko said. "I think this is really the beginning of research taking a different approach to looking at sexting."

Teens and online friends: New virtual pals tend to stay that way

By Heidi Stevens
Chicago Tribune

Fifty-seven percent of kids ages 13 to 17 have met at least one new friend online, with girls most likely to make connections through social media and boys most likely to meet pals while playing online video games.

A report by the non-partisan Pew Research Center, released Thursday, looks at the intersection of technology and teen friendships. It's a compelling peek into the social lives of a generation born into a wired world: being raised by a generation that recalls a far different childhood.

Close to one-third of surveyed teens — 29 percent — say they've met five or more friends in online venues according to the report.

The majority of online connections remain that way, however, with just 20 percent of all teens saying they've arranged to meet an online pal in person.

All the hand-wringing over teens and their devices — They're antisocial! They don't make eye contact! They have text neck! — the report paints a portrait of a socially generation of kids who like to stay in almost-constant communication with their peers, albeit on different terms than their parents did.

When asked about their "closest" friends, 83 percent of surveyed teens say they spend time with them at school, and 58 percent report hanging out with their closest friend at someone's house. Fifty-five percent say they also spent time on social media and gaming sites with their closest friend, but that's in addition to, not instead of, in-person interaction.

Forty-nine percent of teens say texting is their first choice for communicating with their closest friend, with just 13 percent saying phone calls are their No. 1 choice. (Even at 40, I can relate to that. I've grown to dread phone calls.)

It's worth pointing out that 73 percent of teens have smartphones or access to smartphones, according to the survey. Teens without smartphones are more likely than teens with smartphones to use phone calls and social media (accessible on a laptop or other computer) to stay in touch with their closest friends.

Of the teens who say they've met a friend online, 78 percent of girls met the friend through social media (compared with 52 percent of boys) and 57 percent of boys made the connection through online gaming (compared with 13 percent of girls).

A substantial majority — 70 percent — of teens who use social media say it keeps them better connected to their friends' feelings, and 68 percent say their social media connections have supported them through "tough or challenging times."

Then again, most (68 percent) of social media users say they've experienced "drama among friends" on the platforms. Fifty-eight percent have unfriended or unfollowed a person they used to be friends with, and 45 percent of teens have blocked a former friend.

Girls are quicker to unfriend/unfollow an ex-friend; 63 percent say they've done so, compared with 53 percent of boys.

For those of us who remember impatiently awaiting our turn with the family landline and then streeetching the phone cord to maximum tauntness so we could sit in a comfy chair for our hourslong chats with pals, these digital childhoods are practically unrecognizable.

But if we place them in the context of our adult friendships and communication habits — rather than comparing them with a world that no longer exists — it's easy to digest the findings as neither good news nor bad news, but simply... news.

Unless you sell data plans for a living. Then it is, decidedly, good news.

haevelers@tribpub.com
Twitter @hillevenets
Advisers raising awareness about elder financial abuse

JANET KIDD STEWART
The Journey

It's an issue more complex and uncomfortable for some retirees than talking about what to do with their money after death.

Investment firms and nursing facilities are scrambling to deal with the effects of cognitive decline when seniors haven't prepared the proper legal documents, but the process is messy. Investors worry about privacy issues or brokers overstepping their authority, for example, or health care facilities' conflicts of interest if they appeal to a court for guardianship so they can get Medicaid reimbursement.

"We’re having to balance a lot of conflicting interests, but (elder) financial abuse is so large, we’re trying to work together to make some positive steps in the right direction," said Judith Long, head of regulatory affairs and elder client initiatives for Wells Fargo Advisors. Long is a member of the national securities association's advisory council.

Wells Fargo Advisors recently staged a six-city bus tour from Philadelphia to San Diego to raise awareness about elder financial abuse, both among consumers and those working in aging resource fields. Long has a staff of about eight workers who handle issues when brokers suspect their clients might be withdrawing funds because of a scam or ongoing financial abuse at the hand of a loved one, for example. The group is handling 100 to 150 complaints each month, up from about 30 in 2010, before the group was formed.

Long acknowledged concerns about investment firms putting themselves in the role of consumer advocate, while firms and their advisers themselves are frequent targets of investor complaints.

"I hear that (concern), but at the same time we have to do it all," Long said. "We want to hear if people think we’ve missed the mark."

Other big firms have added gerontologists or cognitive experts to their staffs and are reworking policies to deal with situations when advisers suspect their clients might be cognitively impaired.

Meanwhile, some local courts are balancing guardianship petitions by nursing homes as a way to help residents sell their homes or get signed up for Medicaid, because the purpose is ultimately for the facilities to get paid, said Jennifer Cona, an estate planning attorney and managing partner at Genser, Dubow, Genser & Cona in New York.

"It’s a real issue and becoming more so with the graying of America," Cona said.

While regulators and courts sort out potential new standards, consumers can do a few things proactively to avoid bad outcomes, advocates say:

Have an emergency

Contact. Even if you've already designated a financial power of attorney — someone who can act on your behalf if you become incapacitated — consider providing an emergency contact with financial firms where you do business, Long suggests. This specifically authorizes the firm to contact someone with concerns, and that person can be a power of attorney or someone else, he said. And don't wait for old age to do this; it's a good idea for a 29-year-old client involved in an accident or an 82-year-old acting confused, he said.

Think about gifts. Having someone with a power of attorney making gifts on your behalf while you're still alive can be a red flag, so make sure you spell out exactly what your power of attorney can and cannot do, notes "Addressing Memory & Your Family," a recent white paper published by Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Gifts can also be an issue in managing someone's assets before they qualify for Medicaid if a nursing home situation.

Simplify. Early in retirement you might enjoy dabbling in a more complex array of investments, but managing multiple advisers and accounts can eventually be too overwhelming as you age or for a spouse after you die. Some experts advise clients in certain circumstances to spend down their liquid savings earlier to maximize Social Security benefits after age 70 or secure deferred annuity payments that kick in when they're in their 80s.

Share your journey to or through retirement or pose a question at journey@janetkiddstewart.com.

Smart money-saving tips for savvy college students

CAROLYN BIGDA
Getting Started

There is the cost of college, and then there is the cost of going to college — everything from the extra-long twin bed sheets you'll need for your dorm room to textbooks for class.

The expenses can add up fast.

During the 2014-15 school year, the average full-time undergraduate student at a four-year public university spent $1,225 on books and supplies. At four-year private colleges, the average student shelled out $1,244.

As for back-to-school shopping, an annual survey by the National Retail Federation found that, on average, college students and their families will spend just under $900 this year on dorm items, clothes and electronics, among other things.

If you're headed to college this fall, consider the following tips for how to save.

Cut textbook expenses.

The days of buying all of your textbooks from the campus bookstore are over. Today, you have multiple ways to get course materials, including renting books, downloading digital versions or buying used books online.

To get started, use a search engine that compares the cost of buying or renting a specific textbook across multiple websites.

Bigwords.com, for example, aggregates prices for used and new books, as well as rentals and e-books. Bigwords will also scour for coupons and promotions.

Shopping around can pay off. A new copy of the sixth edition of "Macroeconomics: Principles and Applications," by Robert E. Hall and Marc Lieberman, goes for $286 at one college bookstore. A search through Bigwords, however, found a rental option for as little as $27 for the semester, and a used copy starting at $70.

Check coupon sites. Just as with any purchase you make online, it's a good idea to check for coupon codes or promotions while shopping the Web for school supplies. Retailers are running plenty of back-to-school specials right now.

Coupons.com, for example, recently listed 115 offers, including 52 coupon codes and nine free shipping promotions for back-to-school products.

Get student savings.

Don't forget to check for savings targeted specifically at students.

Through Sept. 18, Apple is offering education discounts on laptops, desktop computers and tablets. A 12-inch MacBook, which normally starts at $1,299, is $50 cheaper for college students or parents of college students (as well as faculty and staff at universities and K-12 schools). Apple is also throwing in a free pair of Beats headphones with eligible purchases.

Go tax-free. Many states have so-called tax-free weekends before the start of the school year. During these weekends, state sales tax is waived on qualified purchases.

To find out if and when your state will have a tax-free weekend, go to www.taxadmin.org (click on "2015 state sales tax holidays").

Most tax-free periods for back-to-school shopping began Aug. 7.

Shop with a gift card. If you just graduated from high school and received gift cards as graduation presents, don't forget to use them. According to estimates by CardHub, more than $45 billion in gift cards have gone unredeemed since 2005.

On the flipside, you can buy unwanted gift cards — for a discount — on websites such as www.giftcardgranny.com, and use the cards to make purchases at the related store.

In a recent search, Apple gift cards were available with discounts of as much as 4.28 percent. So a gift card with a value of $100 would cost $95.72. Buy several of those to apply toward a new computer, and the savings — on top of the student discount — really begin to add up.

yourmoney@tribune.com
Dumpster divers: Scavenging is about more than the trash

By Elana Dure
Chicago Tribune

Greg Zanis has been "looking for gold" since 1955. Of course, "gold" is a very loose term. The treasure may appear in the form of a television set, mannequin or moped, but Zanis doesn't discriminate. If the find has value, he is satisfied. After all, not everyone has such luck looking inside a dumpster.

A carpenter by day and scavenger by night, Zanis, 64, spends a lot of his free time searching area dumpsters and garbage routes for neglected items he can pluck and sell to junkyards or individuals. He learned the skills of scavenging from his father and passed down the family trade to his children. The unofficial business is not only exciting, but also profitable - Zanis said he earns $20,000 to $40,000 a year selling other people's trash.

"You can't believe the treasures you get," said Zanis, an Aurora resident. He posts videos of his excursions to his YouTube channel, TheDreamCar.

"We are like squirrels' he said. "We hang on to our stuff until the price is right"

Free food is fast food

Unlike Zanis, Chana Zakroff, 21, never saw herself as anything more than a self-described "casual picker-upper or receiver." The West Ridge resident went on her first Chicago dumpster-diving excursion with a friend about two years ago. She was fascinated by the amount of food her friend obtained from the dumpster and decided to join the game after tasting a salad made with freshly picked produce from a local grocery store's trash bins.

During her first trip, Zakroff said she was stunned to see the amount of food in the dumpster. Boxes of lettuce just past their expiration dates, bags of freshly baked bread that won't sell the next morning, cans of tomato sauce too dented to be marketable. She said some stores donate food to shelters. But even so, the surplus of leftover food is overwhelming, and some things are bound to be thrown away. (Divers are obviously willing to risk eating spoiled food if it means they might save something edible in the process.)

There are several reasons someone may dive for food, Zakroff said. Some enjoy the hunt, others want to save money and some, of course, can't afford to eat any other way. A select few - freegans, who minimally participate in the conventional economy and consumption of resources - feel a moral obligation to reduce and recover the amount of food wasted in this profit-driven economy.

Approximately 20 percent, or the equivalent of $165 billion worth, of edible and available food goes uneaten in the United States each year, according to a 2012 report from the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Zakroff doesn't consider herself a freegan, but dumpster diving for food has helped her understand their beliefs, to minimize the impact of wastefulness. She said her main motivation comes from the convenience and price tag. "I thought it was fun," she said. "It felt like we were shopping, but instead of going to the front, we went to the back, and everything was free."

Digital dives

Of course, there are opportunities to collect people's junk without sticking a hand in a dumpster. Zanis frequently goes on house cleanups and scans Craigslist for free offers. And although Zakroff's hobby is scoring food, she occasionally searches for giveaways (the non-edible kind) on the Freecycle website (a nonprofit movement to encourage reuse and recycling).

Zakroff said she enjoys using the site because it allows her to get free goodies without the worry of stumbling across, say, furry animals. In addition, she appreciates the fact that she can ask about the quality of an item before she goes to pick it up. With dumpster diving, everything is a gamble.

Zanis also likes the digital diving world, but he still prefers tangible dumpsters and garbage routes. Not only is it more exciting and suspenseful, but it is also more convenient. With Craigslist, Zanis must follow another person's schedule. Old-fashioned scavenging enables him to hunt whenever he wants. All he has to do, he said, is "dress in some smelly clothes, go out and get accustomed to (the) territory!"
Celebrities reinvent themselves, so did we

Reintroducing Chicago's original entertainment guide

Experience the new Metromix.com, now on all of your devices. With entertainment listings that cover the city and the suburbs, we're your go-to source so you can spend less time planning, and more time doing.
Software turns smartphones into tools

By Brandon Bailey
AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Jody Kearns doesn’t like to spend time obsessing about her Parkinson’s disease. The 56-year-old dietitian from Syracuse, New York, had to give up bicycling because the disorder affected her balance. But she still works, drives and tries to live a normal life.

Yet, since she enrolled in a clinical study that uses her iPhone to gather information about her condition, Kearns has been diligently taking a series of tests three times a day. She taps the phone’s screen in a certain pattern, records a spoken phrase and walks a short distance while the phone’s motion sensors measure her gait.

“The thing with Parkinson’s disease is there’s not much you can do about it,” she said of the nervous system disorder, which can be managed but has no cure. “So when I heard about this, I thought, I can do this.”

Smartphone apps are the latest tools to emerge from the intersection of health care and Silicon Valley, where tech companies are also working on new ways of bringing patients and doctors together online, applying massive computing power to analyze DNA and even developing ingestible “smart” pills for detecting cancer.

More than 75,000 people have enrolled in health studies that use specialized smartphone apps, built with software Apple Inc. developed to help turn the popular smartphone into a research tool. Once enrolled, iPhone owners use the apps to submit data on a daily basis, by answering a few survey questions or using the iPhone’s built-in sensors to measure their symptoms.

Scientists overseeing the studies say the apps could transform medical research by helping them collect information more frequently and from more people, across larger and more diverse regions, than they’re able to reach with traditional health studies.

A smartphone “is a great platform for research,” said Dr. Michael V. McConnell, a Stanford University cardiologist, who’s using an app to study heart disease. “It’s one thing that people have with them every day.”

While the studies are in early stages, researchers also say a smartphone’s microphone, motion sensors and touch screen can take precise readings that, in some cases, may be more reliable than a doctor’s observations. These can be correlated with other health or fitness data and even environmental conditions, such as smog levels, based on the phone’s GPS locator.

Others have had similar ideas. Google Inc. says it’s developing a health-tracking wristband specifically designed for medical studies. Researchers also have tried limited studies that gather data from apps on Android phones.

But if smartphones hold great promise for medical research, experts say there are issues to consider when turning vast numbers of people into walking test subjects.

The most important is safeguarding privacy and the data that’s collected, according to ethics experts. In addition, researchers say apps must be designed to ask questions that produce useful information, without overloading participants or making them lose interest after a few weeks. Study organizers also acknowledge that iPhone owners tend to be more affluent and not necessarily an accurate mirror of the world’s population.

Apple had previously created software called HealthKit for apps that track iPhone owners’ health statistics and exercise habits. Senior Vice President Jeff Williams said the company wants to help scientists by creating additional software for more specialized apps, using the iPhone’s capabilities and vast user base estimated at 70 million or more in North America alone.

“This is advancing research and helping to democratize medicine,” Williams said in an interview.

None of the apps test experimental drugs or surgeries. Instead, they’re designed to explore such questions as how diseases develop or how sufferers respond to stress, exercise or standard treatment regimens. McConnell said he also wants to study the effect of giving participants feedback on their progress, or reminders about exercise and medication.

In the future, researchers might be able to incorporate data from participants’ hospital records, said McConnell. But first, he added, they must build a track record of safeguarding data they collect. “We need to get to the stage where we’ve passed the privacy test and made sure that people feel comfortable with this.”

Toward that end, the enrollment process for each app requires participants to read an explanation of how their information will be used, followed by giving formal consent. The studies all promise to meet federal health confidentiality rules and remove identifying information from other data that’s collected. Apple says it won’t have access to any data or use it for commercial purposes.

Some studies will always require in-person interaction or supervision by a doctor, experts say. But by reaching more people and gathering more data, advocates say smartphone apps can help doctors answer more subtle questions about a disease.

“Diseases like asthma are very complicated. They’re not caused by a single gene or environmental influence,” said Eric Schadt, a genomics professor who’s using an iPhone app to study asthma at New York’s Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. “The only hope you have of really going further in resolving this disease is for researchers to get to more people.”
Spacious, charming home in Wilmette’s Harper School District

ADDRESS: 923 Harvard Lane, Wilmette
ASKING PRICE: $1,495,000
Listed: June 23

This charming six-bedroom, five-bath home is in the Harper School District. It boasts tall ceilings on all levels. High-quality crown moulding and wainscoting is featured throughout. The open and airy chef’s kitchen opens onto a custom butler’s pantry, which includes storage for all of your entertaining needs. The pantry leads into a bright dining room with large windows that offer panoramic views of the front yard. The luxurious master bedroom offers a gateway to a spa-like bath with soaking tub. The master bedroom also leads to a third floor retreat. There is a spacious lower level perfect for family gatherings and that makes a great playroom. It includes one of this home’s two fireplaces.

Agent: Sharon Friedman/Capitanini Team of Coldwell Banker Winnetka, 847-652-2312

At press time this home was still for sale.
Family at home in converted convent

Brick Federal/Georgian-style dwelling built in 1928 mixes the old and the new

By Rebecca Teagarden
The Seattle Times

“It’s a real circus,” says homeowner Shawn Reed. It is? This staid, stately and gated brick Federal/Georgian-style home on the north end of Seattle’s Capitol Hill where the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary used to put their habits on one leg at a time? Couldn’t be. And then the kids hit the door. Turns out, it is.

Jackson, 3, hair the color of a ripe tomato, is plunked into a sippy cup. He’s in a kid-dog scrum with German Shepherd pups Lucky and Lucy in the living room. Bryant, 6, and Jet, 8, are just home from school, Jet in a kid-classic butch haircut, and Bryant in pink. (The two oldest are off at college.) Reed and his husband, Kerry Norlin, survey the scene from the navy leather sofas set before the fireplace. This is serious full-time parenting. They are a two-dryer family.

“I wonder what the nuns would think to see all of us here,” Reed says. Indeed.

In 2013, the family had just moved into its new contemporary home in Los Angeles. But after two months, barely enough time to unpack, Norlin got a promotion that brought them north.

“We moved in the weekend after July 4 and moved here Labor Day,” Reed says. “We saw this at an open house, the first one we saw. We sold the LA house on a Thursday in November (2013) and closed on this one that night.

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<td>1699 Ashland Ave., # 201, Des Plaines</td>
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<td>890 Oakwood Ct, Des Plaines</td>
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<td>903 Terrace Pl, Des Plaine</td>
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<td>1500 White St, Des Plaines</td>
<td>George Delamatry III &amp; Christina Delamatry</td>
<td>Julian L Friths</td>
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<td>146 Wick Ave, Des Plaines</td>
<td>Jeffrey Kroneck &amp; Jessica L Knecht</td>
<td>Lea P Filko</td>
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This list is not intended to be a complete record of all real estate transactions. Data compiled by Record Information Services. 630-557-4000/record.com
### BUFFALO GROVE

This updated 3-bed, 2.5-bath home comes with a finished basement. There is also an island kitchen with 42-inch cherry cabinets. The kitchen also has granite counters, stainless steel appliances and vaulted ceilings. Brazilian cherry hardwood floors line throughout the home, a large family room and recreation room. The baths have been remodeled, there are Pella windows and the home has an attached garage. There is also a new huge deck overlooking the backyard.

**Address:** 417 Ronnie Drive  
**Price:** $349,900  
**Schools:** Buffalo Grove High School  
**Taxes:** $7,479  
**Agent:** George Seaverns/RE/MAX Experts

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### LAKE BLUFF

Don't miss this 3-bed, 2.5-bath home in the East Terrace of Lake Bluff. This home is in close proximity to downtown Lake Bluff, the train, parks, schools, golf course and pool. The light-filled home is fully updated and includes hardwood flooring, a stylish white kitchen with granite island, a year-round sunroom and crown molding. The living room has a flush mount marble fireplace with the mantel, built-in bookcases and a bay window. The fenced backyard has a brick paver patio, garden and mature trees.

**Address:** 516 Lincoln Ave.  
**Price:** $525,000  
**Schools:** Lake Forest High School  
**Taxes:** $7,579  
**Agent:** Jean Royster/Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

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### WAUCONDA

This 4-bed, 2.5-bath franklin home is located on a huge pond lot with water views. This 2-story's foyer has 9-foot ceilings and a dual oak staircase. There is a formal dining room and a kitchen with an island that overlooks the family room, which also has a woodburning fireplace. There are hardwood floors, a first floor office/den and the luxury master suite has a double sink, a separate shower and a walk-in closet. Finally, there's a full basement and first floor laundry.

**Address:** 2338 Fishhook Way  
**Price:** $329,900  
**Schools:** Wauconda High School  
**Taxes:** $10,282  
**Agent:** Jane Goldman/Gold & Azen Realty

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### WINNETKA

This 4-bed, 2.5-bath home sits near the train, schools, lake and parks. The living room has plenty of space with a fireplace and is adjacent to the sunroom. There is a dining room and the kitchen offers granite counters, stainless steel appliances and it opens to the deck. The home features many newer mechanical upgrades, the hardwood floors were recently refinished, there is new carpet and newly painted walls.

**Address:** 107 Berling Lane  
**Price:** $750,000  
**Schools:** New Trier Township High School  
**Taxes:** $20,000  
**Agent:** Dayle Lively/ Baird & Warner

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### MORTGAGE GUIDE

**Bankrate.com**

Check rates daily at [http://pioneerlocal.interestcom](http://pioneerlocal.interestcom)

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**LENDERS, TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS AD CALL BANKRATE.COM @ 800-509-4636**

**Legend:** The rate and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 8/13/15. © 2015 Bankrate, Inc. [http://www.interest.com](http://www.interest.com). The APR may increase after consummation and may vary. Payments do not include amounts for taxes and insurance. The fees set forth for each advertisement above may be charged to open the point. (A) Mortgage Banker, (B) Mortgage Broker, (C) Bank. (D) S & L. (E) Credit Union. (B) indicates Licensed Mortgage Banker, NYS Banking Dept., (BR) indicates Registered Mortgage Broker, NYS Banking Dept. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of $165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of $455,000. Rates quoted include discount and/or origination. Rates quoted include discount and/or origination. Ltc Days: 30-60. Annual percentage rates (APRs) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. Bankrate, Inc. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates (loans arranged through third parties). Call for rates, 800-509-4636. To report any inaccuracies, call 800-509-4636. • [http://pioneerlocal.interestcom](http://pioneerlocal.interestcom)
Pulitzer prize winner Clarence Page is one of the most nationally recognized and highly regarded syndicated columnists in the country. His new book, *Culture Worrier: Selected Columns 1984 - 2014*, commemorates 30 years of Chicago Tribune columns on topics such as politics, social issues, pop culture, race, family, new media, prominent figures and his own personal life. The book also features a foreword by fellow media commentator, MSNBC host Chris Matthews.

**GET IT TODAY WHEREVER BOOKS AND E-BOOKS ARE SOLD**

Chicago Tribune
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Thursday, Aug. 20

Little Italy Fest-West: Enjoy live music, food for sale, fireworks, meatball wrestling and more. 5 p.m. Thursday & Friday, 3 p.m. Saturday, noon Sunday, Centennial Park, 1776 W. Centennial Place, Addison. Free admission Aug. 20; $8, fee for children 12 and younger, 888-695-0888

Coffee Talk to shine a light on electricity: The Des Plaines History Center invites the public to its Coffee Talk, "The History of Electricity," at the library. The presentation covers aspects of the future of electricity, such as smart grid technology and smart meters. An electric car is on display. 1 p.m. Thursday, Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 E. Elinwood St., Des Plaines, $3 suggested donation, 847-391-5399

Weinberg's one-of-a-kind prints at the Des Plaines Public Library: The art of Penny Weinberg ison display on the third floor at the library, until Aug. 31. These prints capture the moment in time from observations of daily life. The Des Plaines Public Library hours are 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday. Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 E. Elinwood St., Des Plaines, free, 847-827-0515

Jimmie Vaughn and The Tilt-a-Whirl Band: With Lou Ann Barton. 8 p.m. Thursday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $30-$68, 847-492-8860

Found Launches Live Music Every Thursday: Every Thursday this summer, the Josh Rezeka jazz trio performs. 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-868-8945

Child's Play: creations and collections by our youngest artists: This exhibition celebrates young people's artworks and private collections. 10 a.m. each day, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central Street, Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

Native Haute Couture: 10 a.m. each day, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-5300

Fruit and Vegetable Garden Family Drop-in Activities: Join at the Regenstein Fruit & Vegetable Garden for fun, hands-on activities for families and children. 10 a.m. each day, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

Model Railroad Garden: Landmarks of America: This exhibition features 18 G-scale trains chugging along 1,600 feet of track past replicas of American landmarks including the Statue of Liberty. Evening hours on Wednesdays are until 8 p.m. at the garden through Sept. 2; weather permitting. 10 a.m. each day, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, $6 adults; $5 seniors; $4 children ages 3-12; under 3, free; Garden members $10 off these rates; Garden Plus members, free entry Wednesdays; 10-visit pass $45, 847-835-5440

Hot Summer Nights: Bring dancing shoes for an evening of high-energy music and dance in McInerney Pavilion. Visitors who don't want to dance can spread out their blankets, sit back to enjoy the music and watch the performers. For a schedule of performers, visit http://www.chicagobotanic.org/weekend/hot_summer_nights. 6 p.m. Thursday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

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

6 Wicket American Croquet: North Shore Croquet Club. NSCC offers free coaching sessions and practice games to learn "6 Wicket American Croquet." The season lasts from mid April till mid October, weather permitting. For more information and to schedule a game contact Tanya Vovk at 847-409-5526 or Tanya@TanyaVovk.com. The games are played weekly on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. & 3 p.m. Glencoe Golf Club, 621 Westley Road, Glencoe, free

"Bleacher Bums:" "Bleacher Bums" is a play written collaboratively by Chicago's own Organic Theater Company, led by Joe Mantegna. The nine-inning comedy tells the story of a group of Chicago Cubs fans lounging on the bleachers during a hot summer afternoon. Tickets are available through brownpapertickets.com or at the Oak Lawn box office Tuesdays through Fridays from noon to 5 p.m. 8 p.m. Thursday & Friday, 3 & 8 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, Oak Lawn Theatre, 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 2-42. Come take part during regular museum hours: 9:30 a.m. to noon Monday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Special members-only hours are 9-9:30 a.m. Monday-Saturday; Kohl Children's Museum, 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, $11-$10, 847-832-6600

Abe & Co. Mother's Day Giveaway: Enter for a chance to win a Citizen Eco-Drive watch (valued at $22500). The perfect gift for the perfect mom. Drawing at 3 p.m. Exclusive deal at Abe & Co. (In store only) in Lincolwood Town Center. 3333 W. Touhy, Lincolnwood, free, 847-568-7700

Beginner's Series 1: Computer Basics: First class in a two-part series. Registration required. Computer Basics is a hands-on class designed to get you comfortable using computers. Explore basic computer concepts and the Windows 7 operating system. 3 p.m. Thursday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Avenue, Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-8277

The American Legion, Post 134: The American Legion, Post 134, is seeking volunteers to raise funds for Poppy Days to help veterans. Solicitor permits are available for Morton Grove and Niles on Dempster Street and Harlem Avenue. Work a few hours in a designated area or solicit donations. The American Legion Post 134, 6414 W. Dempster St., Morton Grove. Any donation amount helps. 847-663-0539

Free Vein Screening offered: USA Vein Clinics offers free vein screenings during a non-invasive ultrasound of the leg to determine if and where a patient has varicose veins. USA Vein Clinics today to schedule a free screening. 8:30 a.m. Thursday-Saturday, USA Vein Clinics, 4141 Dundee Road, Northbrook, free, 888-628-1348

Food Drive in Skokie: Requesting donations of canned goods and dry food products to fill the shelves of the Niles Township Food Pantry. These foods are to be given to the hungry in the community. All foods can be dropped off at Walgreens. For further information, call Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation office at 847-675-4141 midnight each night. Walgreens, 3945 W. Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

Corepower Yoga — Happy Hour: CorePower Yoga has partnered up with Athleta and ivivva athletic to bring weekly Happy Hour yoga classes in Cube Park on level 1 (the grassy area south of Macy's)! Just bring your own mat and water, and unwind from one's day in style. 6 p.m. Thursday, Westfield Old Orchard, 4999 Old Orchard Center, Skokie, free, 847-673-6800

Skokie Photographic Society: The group meets on the third Thursday of each month. All levels of photographic skill are welcome. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St., Skokie, free, 847-677-8324

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

Friday, Aug. 21

Comedy Sportz at Leela Arts Center in Des Plaines: Comedy Sportz, a short form of the improvisation company, performs a limited 4-week run. Suitable for all ages. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Leela Arts Center, 620 Lee St., Des Plaines, Tickets range from $15 to $25, 800-838-3006

Keller Williams: 8 p.m. Friday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $38-$58, 847-492-8860

2015 Wizard World Comic Con Chicago: 3 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 N. River Road, Rosemont, $40 (plus $607) and up, 646-512-5022

I Gotta Guy Sausage Festival: The event benefits the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and features live music, fabulous prizes and an upscale live and silent auction. 6 p.m. Thursday, Gene & Georgetti's, 9421 W. Higgins Road, Rosemont, $125, 312-236-4491
CALENDAR

Calendar, from Previous Page

Nia: Holistic dance fitness: With Nia develop flexibility, agility, mobility, strength, and stability in your body. 11 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Raydiant Day, 1400 Greenleaf Street, Evanston, $11 drop-in, $80 unlimited class pass, 847-869-6477

Muse of Fire Theatre Company’s “Hamlet”: “Hamlet” performs in Ingraham Park, Saturdays and Sundays at 3 p.m. through Aug. 30 (no outdoor performances Aug. 22 and 23); also performs in the Evanston Public Library at 1703 Orrington Ave. at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 21, 22, 28, and 29. No tickets or reservations are required. For outdoor shows, bring one's own seating. For questions: Emily Campbell |erezowsky Managing Producer, Muse of Fire emily@museoffire.org, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Ingraham Park, 2100 Ridge Ave., Evanston, free.

“South Pacific”: 8 p.m. Friday & Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday & Wednesday, Cahn Auditorium, 600 Emerson St., Evanston, $34+, 847-920-5360

5Rhythms Dance: Come explore the 5Rhythms Dance - a movement meditation to music. 7:30 p.m. Friday & Tuesday, Foster Dance Studios, 955 Foster Street, Evanston, $15, $10 for students and seniors, 847-869-0250

“Big Eyes” (PG-13/2014): A drama about the awakening of the painter Margaret Keane (Amy Adams) and the difficulties she had with her husband, who claimed credit for her phenomenally successful works in the 1960s. A casual audience-led discussion follows screenings. Just drop in. 2 & 6:30 p.m. Friday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Between the Lines: “Not My Father’s Son” by Alan Cumming: This memoir focuses on actor Alan Cumming’s re-creation being told that he is not his father’s child. His father’s admission leads Cumming to resolve long-held memories of verbal abuse. This book discussion group meets at the American Legion Memorial Civic Center of Morton Grove, 6140 Dempster St. 10 a.m. Friday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Movie in the Park: “Finding Nemo”: Join Niles Park District at Grennan Heights for Finding Nemo. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets. Movie begins at dusk. Rain date is Aug. 28 8:30 p.m. Friday, Grennan Heights Park, 8255 N. Oketo Ave., Niles, free, 847-967-6633

Gentle Yoga: Gentle Yoga returns to the library in the Pollack room. Sessions involve sitting and standing exercises for improved physical strength and mental clarity. Admission on first-come, first-served basis. 10:30 a.m. Friday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6244

Temple Beth-El Shabbat Under the Stars: Enjoy a Shabbat dinner and outdoor service in Temple Beth El’s beautiful garden. Bring a picnic and a blanket or lawn chair. The Picnic Dinner begins at 6 p.m., followed by a Musical Family Service at 7 p.m. This event moves indoors if there is inclement weather. 6 p.m. Friday, Temple Beth-El, 3610 Dundee Road, Northbrook, free, 847-205-9982

Share the Warmth: Volunteers wanted — Join a group of warm, friendly, supportive women (men welcome) to prepare one-of-a-kind fleece blankets for chemo patients: Add a crocheted edge to fleece and send free blankets to new adult chemotherapy patients. A basic crochet stitch can be taught if needed. Bring lunch. Attendees often gather until 2 or 3 p.m. Donations are welcome to this 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. 9 a.m. Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, free, 847-293-6755

Summer Celebration Features the Banjo Buddies Dixieland Trio: End summer with a bang, and a festive BBQ luncheon and concert Midnight Friday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $19 NSCC members, $25 non-members, 847-784-6030

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

Backyard Summer Psalms and Fellowship: Each week come enjoy fellowship together as this congregation reads and reflects on one of the Psalms of Ascent and the present journey of their own lives. Bring a beverage and a snack to share. Call the church office for the location. 7 p.m. Friday, Winnetka Covenant Church, 1200 Hibbard Road, Wilmette, free, 847-446-4300

Saturday, Aug. 22

Downtown Evanston Farmers Market: 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Oak Avenue and University Place, 1090 University Place, Evanston, free

Luke Winslow King: 10 p.m. Saturday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $10-$18, 847-492-8860

Robbie Fulks & Reid Valkar: 7 p.m. Saturday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $15-$35, 847-492-8860

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 6 to 12 midnight Saturday, Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8600

Great Lake Plunge: The swim consists of four events: 12-mile, 24-mile, or 8K open water swims and a beginner’s 25-yard swim. This is a nonprofit event with the goal of raising funds to support two organizations: Evanston Swim & Alliance for the Great Lakes. 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Clark Street Beach, 1811 Sheridan Road, Evanston, $30-$90

Signature Entertainment Presents: LOL Saturday: Adult Comedy every Saturday night hosted by Comedy legends Tony Scluffield and Mark Simmons. National Headliners with movie and television credits on stage. Awesome venue with full bar and dinner menu. 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

Heirloom Tomato Weekend: Learn how to grow and use heirloom tomatoes in the Regenstein Fruit and Vegetable Garden. Special activities for children and children’s families include: creating an herb mix, a tomato toss, a tomato test, and more. 11 a.m. Saturday & Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

Garden Chef Series: Top local chefs show how to prepare delicious meals using the freshest fruits, herbs and vegetables. 10:30 & 2:30 p.m. Saturday & Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

Ikenobo Ikebana Chicago Chapter Show: Ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arranging, originated with Ikenobo in Kyoto, Japan, as a Buddhist floral offering. 10 a.m. Saturday & Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

Pamper, Protect, and Play: SkinKino presents the 2nd Annual Family Event with Scavenger Hunt for Kids and Pampering Services for Mom. After the Scavenger Hunt, families can celebrate their success at Friends Park, with face painting and dancing to live music. Call to RSVP or visitinfo@advdermatology.com. 11 a.m. Saturday, skinKino, 716 Vernon Ave., Glencoe, free, 847-459-6400

Farmers market: Glenview: LINK/ SNAP cards are accepted. 9 a.m. Saturday, Wagner Farm, 1510 Wagner Road, Glenview, free, 847-657-1506

Noodles the Wonder Dog: Live Animal Show: Find out how Noodles went from shelter mutt to international trick champion. 10:30 a.m. Saturday, The Book Market at Hangar One, 2651 Navy Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-904-7304

Family Golf Night: Grab your clubs and your family and play a round of golf. For a flat fee all members can play the course. 5 p.m. Saturdays & Sundays, Glenview Prairie Club, 2800 W. Lake Ave, Glenview, $30, 847-657-1637

 Glow-in-the-Dark Golf: Enjoy a late night of golf. Shotgun start begins at sundown. Fee includes snacks and all the neon you’ll need to navigate nine holes. 8 p.m. Saturday, Glenview Park Golf Club, 800 Shermer Road, Glenview, $25, 847-724-0250

Summer Fun with Wendy & DB: Wendy & DB love to get kids singing, wiggling, jumping, dancing and just having a great time! 10 a.m. Saturday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Avenue, Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

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

Northfield Farmers Market: 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Happ Road and New Trier Court, 6 Happ Road, Northfield, free, 847-446-4451

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

Community Shredding Day Skokie: Bring up to 25 pounds of paperwork to be safely shredded and recycled. 11 a.m. Saturday, First Bank & Trust Skokie, 4007 Dempster Street, Skokie, free, 847-733-7400

Preserving Survivor Stories: Ask Holocaust Survivor Pinchas Gutter any question, and “natural language” technology software retrieves Pinchas’ response, creating an interactive dialogue, as if Pinchas were in the room. Free with Museum admission. 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4835

Wilmette Farmers Market: 8 a.m. Saturday, Wilmette Village Center, 12th Street and Wilmette, Central
CALENDAR

Sunday, Aug. 23

Bettie LaVette: 7 p.m. Sunday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $25-$35, 847-492-8860

Time for Brunch: The perfect way to spend one's Sunday. Join in a classic brunch by Executive Chef, Oscar Leon in the beautiful Jem Dining Room. Look forward to a full spread of delicious food, soft music, and plenty of warm conversation. Call to RSVP 11 a.m. Sunday, The Merion, 1611 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $1,995 per person, 847-864-6400

Storytelling In the Snug with Ben Rosenfeld: Reservations for dinner and storytelling or for storytelling alone are strongly recommended. 8 p.m. Sunday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

Chicago Botanic Garden Farmers' Market: 9 a.m. Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

Feeding the Hungry for the Jewish New Year: Maot Chitini, the Jewish High Holy Days for Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. To volunteer or donate, call or visit the website. 9 a.m. Sunday, Warehouse space, 1808 Holste Road, Northbrook, free, 847-874-3224

Chayanne: 7 p.m. Sunday, Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, $60-$125, 847-635-6601

Skokie Farmers Market: 7:30 a.m. Sunday, Skokie Village Hall, 527 Oakton St., Skokie, Free, 847-637-0500

TJM Congregational Summer BBQ: Join us for grilled hot dogs, veggie burgers, chips, drinks, games, entertainment, and spending time with your TJM family. 4 p.m. Sunday, Temple Judea Mizpah, 8610 Niles Center Road, Skokie, $3 per person, $10 family. Free to all prospective new members, 847-676-1566

Wood Dale Cruise Night: Catch your favorite classic cars and enjoy great company amongst community members. 6 p.m. Sunday, Wood Dale Bowl, 155 E. Irving Park Road, Wood Dale, free, 630-766-6800

Monday, Aug. 24

Book Babies: Songs, games, story time and free play for babies ages 2 and younger with a caregiver. 10:15 a.m. Monday, Evanston Public Library - North Branch, 2026 Central Street, Evanston, free, 847-448-8600

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: The concert schedule is available at chicagobotanic.org. 7 p.m. Monday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

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

MGPL Kids: Monday Morning Playgroups: Drop-in play time for preschoolers with a parent or caregiver. 10 a.m. Monday, Morton Grove Public Library 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

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

Open Hockey Rat Time: Players 18 years and older wearing full equipment may partake in a pickup hockey game. 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, Glenview Ice Center, 1851 Landwehr Road, Glenview, $10, 847-724-2800

Camera Club: The club meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-3997

Turn to Calendar, Next Page
Life Transitions Group: A support group for men and women who have been widowed for one to four years. The group is volunteer-facilitated and held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. 7 p.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Nonprofit Center, 720 Garden Street, Park Ridge, $5 per session, 847-720-4170

Country In the Park: Every Tuesday evening through Sept. 1 Guests can also visit food and beverage tents on the park's great lawn. Parking is free with validation. 7 p.m. Tuesday, MB Financial Park at Rosemont, 5501 Park Place, Rosemont, free, 847-349-5008


Jewish Short Stories: "Jewish Short Stories," is a three-part class filled with discussion and learning led by Rabbi Jeffrey Weill and teacher, Claire Shulman. The class is free and open to the public. Stories by familiar authors as well as works by lesser-known writers to be read. Materials provided in advance of each class. For reservations or further information, contact the synagogue office. 2 p.m. Tuesday, Ezra Hабоним, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141

Wednesday, Aug. 26

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

Found Launches "Meet Me at Found" Event Series: Live Jazz Music by Bar Takeover. 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Found Kitchen & Social House, 1631 Chicago Ave., Evanston, free, 847-868-8945

Preschool Story Time: Stories and songs for children ages 3-5 and a caregiver. 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave., Evanston, free, 847-448-8610

Friends of the Lincolnwood Public Library: The group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Avenue, Lincolnwood, free.

Advanced Microsoft Excel 2010: Registration required. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Avenue, Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Chef Demo: A chef demonstration and tasting of an easy-to-prepare appetizer, main dish, salad, or dessert. 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Avenue, Lincolnwood, free, 847-677-5277

Teen Library Council (TLC): Stop by to meet the new teen librarian, check out the new Teen Room, and take a leading role in shaping the future of MGPL. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Chess Club: Whether you're a skilled player looking for an opponent or a beginner interested in learning new skills, join our weekly chess club. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Classics on Wednesday Film Series: Free weekly screening of classic films at the Northbrook Public Library. 1 & 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Ritch Shydner: The comedian performs standup. 8 p.m. Wednesday & Thursday, 8 & 10:30 p.m. Friday, Zanies Rosemont, 5437 Park Place, Rosemont, $22 plus a two-item food/drink minimum, 847-813-0484

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

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"Ant-Man" ★★★☆
PG-13, 1:57, action. "Ant-Man" has been skittering around the development corridors of Hollywood so long, the earliest unproduced screenplays about the tiny superhero actually preceded the Disney film "Honey, I Shrunk the Kids." That was another age (1989), decades before our present "Age of Ultron," an epoch of expensive cheap thrills dictated by the steady, crushing rollout of so many Marvel movies that even the good ones start to seem like ants at an endless picnic. But wait. The "Ant-Man" we have before us, half-an-inch tall and played by genial, skillful Paul Rudd, turns out to be better company than you’d think possible in a multistrand franchise lousy with corporate directives. — Michael Phillips

"Fantastic Four" ★☆
PG-13, 1:46, action. Everyone on screen in "Fantastic Four" speaks in a flat, earnest monotone with a determinedly low-keyed air bordering on openly not giving a rip. Well, it’s a choice. A boring one, but a choice. The film, genuinely listless as directed and co-written by Josh Trank in a style to be named later, showcases the revised origin story of the Marvel Comics quartet, basing its storyline on the 2004 “Ultimate Fantastic Four” books. This is a mere eight years after "Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer" came and went. For a movie largely set on a planet (Planet Zero) coursing with living, liquid energy, I don’t know if I’ve ever seen a superhero movie more in need of a lie-down. — M.P

"The Gift" ★★★☆
R, 1:48, thriller. Jason Bateman and Rebecca Hall play Simon and Robyn, recently moved from Chicago back to Simon’s native Los Angeles. Shopping one day, they chance upon Simon’s old high school classmate, a quiet, tense fellow named Gordo. Simon is creeped out by his old acquaintance’s pushy, needy impulses. Something’s going on under the surface of the social encounters, indicated by Gordo’s early promise that he’s willing to “let bygones be bygones.” Gradually "The Gift" unwraps the story of what happened back when Simon and Gordo were teenagers, while playing a clever shell game with the characters and our sympathies in the present day. "The Gift" faces a particular challenge, since its marketing campaign makes it look like a slasher outing. It’s not. — M.P

"Minions" ★★½
PG, 1:31, animation. It’s the role of a minion to be a servile follower of a person in charge. That means they are resigned to playing the supporting role. That’s the problem with the new animated comedy "Minions." The pill-shaped yellow characters introduced in "Despicable Me" as the subordinates to the villainous Gru have now taken center stage. The charm and humor they brought in tiny doses in the previous films now come in a massive blast that wears thin quickly. — Rick Bentley, Fresno Bee

"Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation" ★★★½
PG-13, 2:11, action. With the new "Mission: Impossible" movie, even if it’s the most assured and satisfying of the five so far, it sounds foolish to even mention the things the characters say in between screeching tires, gunfights, knife fights, motorcycle derring-do and the opening act featuring Tom Cruise dangling for real (real enough to make it look cool and frightening) on the outside of a plane high over a Belarus airstrip. But it isn’t foolish. One of the pleasures of "Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation" is the snap and tension of writer-director Christopher McQuarrie’s dialogue. At one point a character describes Cruise’s Ethan Hunt as an unstoppable force of destiny. In such wittily florid terms, it’s like a love letter crossed with a term paper, dropped into a spy movie. — M.P
Juckett, Janet Taverner

Janet T. Juckett, 84, long time resident of Park Ridge and Arlington Heights passed away on August 8, 2015, in Colorado surrounded by her family. Jan was born on May 25, 1931 to Howard B. and Violet D. (Pritchard) Taverner in Chicago. A 1949 graduate of Maine Township High School, she attended DePauw and University of Illinois. Jan married Robert S. Juckett on August 30, 1953 at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Park Ridge where she was an active member for 81 years. Jan was also involved in numerous philanthropic, educational, political, and community organizations. As an avid sports fan she loved the Chicago Bulls. Jan worked as a legal secretary and administrative assistant, retiring at age 82. Jan was a loving mother, grandmother, and friend who touched many people during her life.

Jan is survived by her children: Linda (Randall), Robert (Diane), William (Nancy), and Pamela (Doran); and her grandchildren: Robert, Ryan, Robert, Tyler, Blake, Hunter, and Kathryn. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and her granddaughter Jennifer.

The family will receive friends from 4-9 PM on Thursday, August 20 at St. Mary's Episcopal Church 306 S. Prospect Ave. Park Ridge IL. Funeral services will be Friday, August 21 at 2 PM at St. Mary's. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her honor to St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 306 S. Prospect Ave. Park Ridge IL 60068

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NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY
DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION

The judgment of foreclosure and sale entered in the above cause on June 15, 2015, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM and 11:30 AM on September 10, 2015, at the Judicial Sales Corporation, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 700, Chicago, Illinois 60602, sell at public auction the following described property:

The balance, including the judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipalities for the subject property, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each $1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will not be the subject to general real estate taxes, social assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without reserve to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will expire in 60 days after confirmation of the sale. The property will be sold subject to the rights of any persons legally entitled to the property, including the judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipalities for the subject property.

For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff’s attorney’s office or visit our website at service.atty-pierce.com between the hours of 3 and 5 days before the sale. Persons entering the building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the specific location of the sale shall present a photo identification to gain entry into the area. The Judicial Sales Corporation, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 700, Chicago, Illinois 60602, 312-236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.judicialsalescorp.com or call 312-236-SALE. You may also refer to file number PA0919060. The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. All information provided is subject to confirmation by the court.

For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff’s attorney’s office or visit our website at service.atty-pierce.com between the hours of 3 and 5 days before the sale. Persons entering the building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the specific location of the sale shall present a photo identification to gain entry into the area. The Judicial Sales Corporation, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 700, Chicago, Illinois 60602, 312-236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.judicialsalescorp.com or call 312-236-SALE. You may also refer to file number PA0919060. The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. All information provided is subject to confirmation by the court.

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In the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois County Department - CHANCERY DIVISION

The Judicial Sales Corporation
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 16, 2016, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will sell at 10:30 A.M. on the first Monday following the publication of this Notice, on the premises described below, for the amount of said Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, together with costs and reasonable attorney's fees, to the highest bidder, for the sum of not less than $300,000, in certificated funds, payable to the order of The Judicial Sales Corporation, no later than 10:30 A.M. on the second Monday following the date of sale, at the address of the premises described below, unless sooner paid. Taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without notice to Plaintiff and in AS IS condition. The sale will be subject to confirmation by the Court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: property municipally known as 4109 N. ORIOLE AVENUE, NORRIDGE, IL 60063, which property contains real estate also more particularly described in the above-mentioned Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 16, 2016.

The Judicial Sales Corporation, No third party checks will be accepted. If this property is a condominium unit, which is a part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale will remain responsible for all real estate taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without notice to Plaintiff and in AS IS condition. The sale will be subject to confirmation by the Court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: property municipally known as 4109 N. ORIOLE AVENUE, NORRIDGE, IL 60063, which property contains real estate also more particularly described in the above-mentioned Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 16, 2016.

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### Summary of Revenue and Expenditures

**NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES**

Revenues for all cash and on hand balance at the end of the fiscal year, July 1, 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Revenue</th>
<th>Estimated Amount Available</th>
<th>Total Estimated Amount Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Property Taxes to be received in FY 2015-2016</strong></td>
<td>$3,582,768</td>
<td>$3,582,768</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Estimated Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund Revenue</strong></td>
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<td>$8,279</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Estimated Social Security Fund Revenue</strong></td>
<td>$11,904</td>
<td>$11,904</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Estimated Cash on hand as of July 1, 2015</strong></td>
<td>$2,160</td>
<td>$2,160</td>
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**Total Estimated Amount Available:** $13,677,091

### Article X - Social Security Fund

Estimated Social Security Fund Revenue and Expenditures:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Revenue</th>
<th>Estimated Amount Available</th>
<th>Total Estimated Amount Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Estimated Social Security Fund Revenue</strong></td>
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<td>$11,904</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Estimated Social Security Fund Expenditures</strong></td>
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<td>$11,904</td>
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</table>

**Total Estimated Amount Available:** $13,677,091

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**NOTE:**

1. The foregoing summarizes the estimates of the revenues to be received and the expenditures to be incurred for the fiscal year ending July 1, 2016. These estimates have been prepared by the President and Board of Trustees of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District for the fiscal year ending July 1, 2016, and are subject to approval by the County Board of Cook County, State of Illinois.

2. Any unanticipated balances resulting from the actual amounts of any general appropriation in this Ordinance will be expended in the manner specified in the approved budget for the fiscal year.

3. The President and Board of Trustees of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District are hereby authorized to make any and all necessary and proper expenditures for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Ordinance.

4. The foregoing summary is for information only and no liability is assumed for the accuracy of the information contained herein.

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**SIGNATURE:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Skyla</td>
<td>President</td>
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**SIGNED AND APPROVED:**

- By the President of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District, County of Cook, State of Illinois, on the 10th day of August, 2015.
- By the President of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District, County of Cook, State of Illinois, on the 10th day of August, 2015.

**SECRETARY:**

- Andrew Skyla

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**NOTE:**

1. The foregoing summary is for information only and no liability is assumed for the accuracy of the information contained herein.
6 best back-to-school cars

Newer cars are safer, more efficient, more economical and could be a better value over the long haul.

BY ROBERT DiUFFER
Tribune Newspapers

The first car is one of the most memorable purchases of a lifetime. For teens, it offers independence and tangible confirmation that they are driving headlong into adulthood. In a word, a first car is freedom.

It’s exciting for parents, too, especially before the black abyss of tuition payments. But it is a complex consideration fraught with the safety concerns of the driver and financial obligations of the backer.

Safety pays

“Cost is a big issue for parents when they’re looking for a teen,” said Russ Rader, spokesman for the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. “But spending a little more will get a vehicle that has the characteristics that will protect a teen if a crash happens.”

Modern safety equipment is especially beneficial to inexperienced drivers. Not only are cars better equipped to absorb crashes, they are loaded with equipment to prevent them.

Side curtain air bags: The number of air bags that come standard in cars has increased in the past decade, from the two front air bags to upward of 10 in places such as the seat belt or under the dash for knees. The most important development has been side impact or curtain air bags, which protect the head and chest area in the event of crashes from the side.

Electronic Stability Control (ESC): ESC automatically applies brakes to individual wheels when a car is skidding, to correct underneath and oversteer and help prevent a panicked driver from overcorrecting into a rollover crash. NHTSA mandated it on all new cars manufactured after September 2011. It is considered the most significant safety feature since the seat belt.

Stay connected

Remember the CD player? Forget it, because it’s being phased out in newer cars. If there isn’t at least one USB port in a new car, it feels outdated (we’re waiting for wireless hot spots enabling up to seven devices to be connected. Technology is not limited to connectivity. The latest infotainment systems have built-in navigation, roadside assistance, voice commands, text message read-back, phone storage — everything imaginable to keep the phone put away and keep the driver relying on the car’s internal systems, which aren’t as distracting. Most systems cost extra.

The technology also extends to driver safety features, such as lane departure warnings, adaptive cruise control, blind spot alerts and the backup camera, which has been mandated in all cars starting with model year 2018. Most new cars have them.

Cost

Of course, consumers are paying more than they ever have for new cars, with the average transaction price of a new car tipping $33,000, which, incidentally, was about the average cost of tuition and fees at a private college in 2014-2015, according to the College Board.

Fortunately, the IIHS last year addressed the unreality of buying your teen a new car by coming up with its first recommended used car list for teens. If considering a used car, make sure to do a free VIN check to determine vehicle incident history.

Our suggestions are based on new cars because their costs are easier to calculate. Rader suggests parents plan ahead when buying a car for themselves by considering what it will need to have to be safely passed on to their teen. Chances are a used model would save you money and still satisfy your priorities. We only recommend cars with a Top Safety Pick rating or above from IIHS and try to keep the MSRP for base models under $20,000.

MSRP and total cost of ownership numbers come from Kelley Blue Book’s online calculator. Total cost of ownership factors in fuel, insurance, maintenance, registration, depreciation and possible financing fees.

BY ROBERT DiUFFER
Tribune Newspapers

Honda Fit

The Civic, even or even the subcompact crossover HR-V, could, ahem, fit here, but the collapsible magic seats and overall wagon versatility in the Fit are a deal-maker. The 60/40 rear split-seat bottoms fold up to provide 4 feet of vertical space, ideal for teens expected to be on the move in their bohemian phase.

Base price: $16,015
MPG: 24 city, 37 highway
Total cost of ownership: $28,018

Kia Soul

The quirky Soul is one of the more fun cars on the list — not fun to drive so much as fun to be in. Similar to the expressive, distinctive Scion youth brand from Toyota, the Soul is a tall urban hatch with a lot of personality, crouched in family-oriented practicality.

Base price: $16,015
MPG: 24 city, 37 highway
Total cost of ownership: $29,900

Mazda 3

Mazda makes some of the most complete cars on the road, perfectly balancing striking designs with modern interior appointments, along with the SkyActiv blend of optimizing fuel economy while maximizing driving pleasure. And it’s a Top Safety Pick + when you ante up for the advanced safety features.

Base price: $18,615
MPG: 30 city, 41 highway (automatic)
Total cost of ownership: $30,069

Chevy Sonic

The only all-U.S.-built subcompact, Chevy’s Sonic offers enough interior touches and roominess to elevate it over its competitors at this price point. The technological capabilities, including the MyLink infotainment system with some of the better voice recognition on the market, is what will sell it, however. Top Safety Pick was for models built after February 2013.

Base price: $15,070
MPG: 26 city, 35 highway
Total cost of ownership: $30,108

Hyundai Elantra

This sedan could be the most adult car on the list and, subsequently, the best value. We were impressed with the overall value when we tested it in 2014, and that’s only going to improve since the 2017 redesign will hit the market in early 2016. It’s one of the roomiest for passengers on the list and is a seamless bridge from college to career.

Base price: $18,075
MPG: 28 city, 38 highway
Total cost of ownership: $31,793

Volkswagen Golf

The Golf and its six variants have swept the best of 2015 lists and earned North American Car of the Year and Motor Trend’s Car of the Year. For good reason. Only the Mazda 3 can compete with the Golf for fun, economy, versatility and value. Great first car, great urban car, great road car, a Top Safety Pick — the Golf is all-around good.

Base price: $18,615
MPG: 25 city, 37 highway
Total cost of ownership: $35,710 (based on 2014)
The 2016 Mercedes-Maybach S600 offers an optional Champagne cooler.

Maybach S600: a land yacht

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Tribune Newspapers

It's pronounced "MY- bock," but everyone who saw it called it incredible.

The 2016 Mercedes-Maybach S600 is a stately land yacht with features such as six-way massaging seats and an optional Champagne cooler with silver-plated Champagne flutes, in a ride so smooth that the kids fall asleep within minutes. It elicits awe if not outright envy. And the $200,000 tag is actually a value.

The latest reincarnation of the prestige brand is nearly half the price of the last Maybach iteration, which ended a decade's disappointing sales run in 2012. By associating it with the flagship S600 sedan, Mercedes is creating a swaddled space between flagship and superluxe brands such as Rolls-Royce and Bentley.

One passenger, age 9, called it a mini-limo. The mini-limo S600 is 2 feet longer than the average sedan, so chances are it's not fitting in the average garage.

The optional 20-inch forged alloy wheels ($3,900) appear like shallow silver serving dishes with handlelike spokes at the edges. The body lines follow the S600, and chrome door rockers and B-pillar make it shine like a silver spoon.

The Maybach S600 has an undeniable charm and subtle muscularity that extends under the hood. The 6-liter V-12 biturbo engine pumps out 523 horsepower and 612 pound-feet of torque that stuns the driver. This long, 5,269-pound rear-wheel-drive beast goes from 0 to 60 in 5 seconds in active sports mode. It'll cost you a gallon, but the magic is what transpires in the back seat: nothing.

Mercedes says it is the quietest car on the road, and we couldn't argue it. The suspension soaks up road inconsistencies, even handling railroad crossings with uncanny grace. Nearly every time I was on the road for more than 10 minutes, my pint-size rear passengers, a little king and queen, had fallen asleep.

In the Maybach's Chauffeur position, the seat reclines back, the foot rest extends, the front passenger seat slides forward while the headrest collapses, and a lip extends from the rear of the front seat for a double foot rest.

The rear floor has 1-inch-thick sheepskin that may provoke some to wiggle their piggies and hug the monogrammed leather pillows as if it's story time. All four seats, swathed in espresso nappa leather, have massaging seats with six different massage options, including one with hot stones. Seven ambient light choices, from sunset orange to moonlight blue, light up the wood trim and footrest and hot/cold cup holder to set the mood for the three-bottle Champagne cooler ($1,100) between the rear seats.

Drivers will no doubt luxuriate in its amenities, but it's all attendant on your serving the car, not the other way around. The Mercedes-Maybach S600 is for those who have ascended beyond the flags ships of the strata of the driven. Oxymoron notwithstanding, the relatively reasonable price makes it a loaded contender that doesn't dampen the Maybach prestige.

2016 MERCEDES-MAYBACH S600
Superluxe sedan

Price as tested:
$199,725
Base price: $189,350

MPG: 13 city, 20 highway

Engine:
6-liter V-12 biturbo

Transmission:
7-speed auto with paddles in rear-wheel drive

Parting shot: A fine fit for those that prefer to be driven rather than to drive.

Direct-injection engines can lead to costly valve cleaning

Q: I have a 2009 VW with gasoline direct inject and a 2-liter turbo engine. It recently needed the intake valves cleaned (a very costly job) after just 54,000 miles. I understand many manufacturers are turning to direct injection to help efficiency on these powerful small engines. The problem is, the intake valves on these engines become dirty very easily since gas bypasses them. What's your opinion on preventing this rather than cleaning it? Additives, more frequent oil changes, spray intake cleaners? I don't want another large cleaning bill, but I don't want to waste money trying to prevent it either.

-R.B. Wethersfield, Conn.

A: More even sinisters than valve deposits are deposits on the tips of the fuel injectors. There are no magic potions that you can pour into your gas tank. We suggest you have the intake and injection system professionally cleaned at regular intervals. Although there are do-it-yourself products on the shelves, we suggest taking your car to a professional who will use products that are much stronger than the store-bought stuff.

Q: I have a 2010 Buick Lucerne, and the lane departure camera (module) went bad. The dealer said it would cost $525 for parts and labor, labor being 1/2 hours of reprogramming the camera. If I replaced the camera from Amazon for $167 and put it in myself, does it need to be reprogrammed by the dealer? I got mixed reviews online. Some said yes; some said no.

-K.N., Southington, Conn.

A: You may get lucky, and the replacement module will work without further programming. If it doesn't, you haven't really lost anything. But like any service, it pays to shop around. Some independent shops can do the job, maybe at a lower price. Prices may even vary from dealer to dealer because of their different labor rates.

Q: My 1998 Dodge Caravan's inside fabric on the roof has loosened or comeunglued and is sagging. The fabric is hitting the driver's head. How can I repair this?

-J.A., Chicago

A: The fabric you mention is called the headliner. In most cases, the original is a foam-backed cloth that is glued to the panel, or board, under the vehicle roof. The foam dries out and crumbles, allowing the headliner to sag. You can repair it yourself with a kit if you take off the panel. That involves removing the sun visors, dome light, trim for the headliner and trim from the A-pillars and possibly the B-pillars. Otherwise, auto upholstery shops and some body shops will do the job.

Q: I have a 2002 Toyota Camry XLE with 131,000 miles. Recently, the check engine light came on and was diagnosed as the purge valve and the vapor canister. The estimated cost to repair by my regular shop was just over $900. A repair estimate by a second shop confirmed it could run $800 or more, but also indicated it could be a fluke and not recur. Does this sound correct to you, and is it worth doing on an almost-14-year-old car?

-J.G., Naperville, Ill. A: Yes, flukes occur. Drive the car and see if the light illuminates again. If not, the computer will eventually delete the trouble code from its memory. Since the canister and purge valves are part of the emission control system, any issues will cause the vehicle to fail the test. Fortunately for Illinois residents, pre-2007 model year vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating between 8,501 and 14,000 pounds are exempt from testing.

Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Fifth Floor, Chicago IL 60611 or motormouth.trib@verizon.net.
McIlroy back on track to play at BMW Championship

“Seemed like there was nothing. I didn't see any difference in his game. He seems like 100-percent ready.”
—Jordan Spieth, on Rory McIlroy

Mcllroy said Aug. 13. “I felt like I did that.”

“Seemed like there was nothing,” Spieth said on Aug. 13. “I didn't see any difference in his game. He seems like 100-percent ready.”

Golf fans were 100-percent ready to welcome McIlroy back on Aug. 13 for his first round since June 21 at the U.S. Open.

McIlroy showed up to the first tee Aug. 13 wearing bright fuchsia pants, which moved one fan to yell out, “Nice pants!” As he came off the tee on the 11th hole, two young girls waved to him, and his return wave sent them running smiling back to their mother. After he hit a just OK third shot on the par-5 16th (he still made birdie), a young boy in a bright green polo and basketball shorts admonished nearby photographers, crying, “You distracted him!”

By Aug. 14, McIlroy was ready to stop talking about the ankle, offering only “it feels good” after his round. He still has two more rounds at the PGA Championship, and then the FedEx Cup Playoffs, which should lead him through Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest. The tournament is scheduled to run Sept. 17-20.

Even with his long layoff, McIlroy is No. 9 in the FedEx Cup standings after the PGA Championship. The top 70 make it to the BMW Championship.

“Seemed like there was nothing, I didn't see any difference in his game. He seems like 100-percent ready.”
—Jordan Spieth, on Rory McIlroy
SEASON PREVIEW

BOYS

SOCCER

Niles West

Top returners: Sr. F Mario Bajic, Jr. MF Kevin Sanchez, Jr. GK Carlos Lome, Sr. D Mario Kosir

New contributors: So. MF Alec Esteban, Jr. MF Laith Zaibal, Jr. MF/E Georgi Spasov

Team outlook: Milo Cejovic has replaced Scott Ackman, who's now an assistant coach at Loyola, as Niles West's coach.

Cejovic served as the Wolves' Freshman A coach in 2014, which was his lone year in that role. As a result, Cejovic wasn't familiar with many of Niles West's varsity players when he was first hired.

Cejovic, who's the younger brother of Niles North coach Filip Cejovic, made a concerted effort to change that as quickly as possible.

"One of the things that I wanted to do is just to connect with them right away," Milo Cejovic said. "As soon as I found out that I had been hired, I made it a point to really go out and meet with the players from last year and communicate with them and let them know who I was and what I was about.

"I wanted to know what their experiences were like, and I wanted to communicate to them how things were going to be under me. I was here all the time during the summer, and just communicating with them. I think our relationship is building and it's only going to get better."

Niles West lost in the Class 3A regional semifinals last season.

Niles North

Top returners: Sr. MF Ricky Torres, Sr. F Pressio Teclai, Sr. F Matt Naranjo, Sr. MF Chris Patino

New contributors: Sr. M George Beto, Sr. D Juan Vargas

Team outlook: This season will be Filip Cejovic's third coaching boys soccer at Niles North. He spent his first three years as the Vikings' sophomore coach, then one as a varsity assistant on Yoon Lee's staff.

Filip Cejovic is now entering his first year as Niles North's coach. He feels as if he's taking over at the perfect time, as the Vikings won their first Central Suburban North title in 2013 and were competitive in 2014. Niles North lost to Maine East 3-2 in the Class 3A regional semifinals a year ago.

"We all feel that we have turned the corner, as far as soccer's concerned in becoming relevant in the soccer community," Cejovic said. "I've felt that we have a very strong soccer community that just needed elevating to the next level — meaning a little bit more focused training based on technique and tactics, as opposed to all fitness. That's what we have tried to do in the last 10 months that I've been coach, especially over the summer.

Cejovic added: "We had a wonderful summer, an undefeated summer, a great camp, great numbers. There seems to be a lot of excitement in the program. We had over 100 kids try out for the first time. Everybody seems to be excited that we are moving in the right direction."

Ridgewood

Top returners: Sr. GK Wojtek Gasienica, Sr. F Brian Kmiotek, Sr. D Patryk Panocha

New contributors: Sr. MF Mykhailo Batyr, Jr. MF Greg Gruba, Sr. D Volodymyr Zhyrych

Team outlook: Armando Cabrera takes over a Ridgewood team that enters the year counting on its defense — with Gasienica, a four-year starter in goal, Zhyrych, a transfer from Ukraine, and Panocha — to be its strength.

"Cabrera called the Rebs' defense "top notch," but added that he's challenging his team's offense to try to average 2-3 goals per game. A lack of consistent scoring plagued Ridgewood at times in 2014 — it scored five goals in three playoff games, losing in the Class 2A sectional finals and Cabrera hopes an all-hands-on-deck approach helps change that this fall.

"I've put a little bit of pressure on the offense to produce this year," Cabrera said. "I feel like since 2010 we've sort of dropped off on our goals, with the loss of Piotr Soja. I want to try to rely not just on one kid or one player to score all the goals. I want to make it a team effort.

"In a pregame, we try to tell our guys, 'Mark up on this kid, because he's their best kid.' Well, I want to make it to where we're a very hard team to mark up against because we're talented and we can score from all different areas. That's my big goal, is to make everybody a threat during a game."

Maine South

Team outlook: Maine South graduated nearly all of the players it started in a 4-1 loss to New Trier in the Class 3A regional semifinals a year ago.

Maine East

Top returners: Sr. D Carl Dalmos, Sr. MF Jack Wernet, Sr. GK Connor O'Neill

New contributors: So. F Nick Feeney, Jr. D Emmett O'Malley

Team outlook: Alex Luke was Maine East's unquestioned leader a year ago. The center back was so effective that coach Jeff Bishop, who is entering his second year, said "unfortunately, I don't think anybody can really fill that [leadership] position."

"While the Blue Demons will be without Luke, a 2015 graduate, they return the majority of their starting lineup. Noriega and Kielbasa figure to provide experience on the backline. Herrera, whose improvement over the last 10 months has impressed Bishop, is slated to join them even though he broke his left arm in the preseason.

A key for Maine East, Bishop added, will be for its forwards to finish in the final third more consistently than they did a year ago. The Blue Demons were shut out in a Class 3A regional final.

"We struggled last year, scoring goals, but we did a really good job of creating opportunities," Bishop said.

"This year, I'm confident that if we create those same opportunities, we'll be able to finish."

Notre Dame

Top returners: Sr. D Carl Dalmos, Sr. MF Jack Wernet, Sr. GK Connor O'Neill

New contributors: So. F Nick Feeney, Jr. D Emmett O'Malley

Team outlook: Notre Dame should have a strong spine this year, with O'Neill, center back Dalmos and center midfielder Wernet all returning for their senior seasons.

What should be different this year for the Dons, when compared to 2014, is that they will have the speedy Feeney at forward.

Feeney missed all of his freshman season due to an injury. Having him in the lineup figures to add a dimension of scoring skill and athleticism Notre Dame didn't have up top last season. The Dons' season ended in the Class 3A regional semifinals.

"They're really in practices, and in games — shown the younger players [the way], in terms of leadership, work ethic, how to carry themselves on the field," said Ross, who takes over as Notre Dame's coach for Desmond Ryan. "Early on, I like the work ethic. I like the intensity. I think those two previous classes really had a big impact on this group of guys, and all of them are really stepping up."

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter: @VanDrilSports
SEASON PREVIEW | GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

BY TODD MARVER
Pioneer Press

Maine East

Top returners: Sr. OH Maggie Chwieralski, Sr. MH Niki Ahlstrand, Sr. DS Miranda Duro

New contributors: So. S Maria Skoufos, Jr. OH Mahin Wadia, RSH Emily Cashen, Jr. DS Michele Wen, Jr. MH Alex Villalobos

Team outlook: After a 17-win campaign in 2013 and a breakthrough season in 2014—a trip to the Class 4A sectional semifinals followed the program's first regional title since 2004—and the team also won its first Central Suburban North championship since 2001—there is a feeling this senior group is looking to sustain their success in 2015 by winning regional and conference titles again. Despite the losses of outside hitter Hannah Farley and setter Sarah Hua-Pham to graduation, the Blue Demons are looking to make a statement this season, according to head coach Dave Wlodarczyk.

"When the seniors were freshmen, that was my first year back after having been gone from the program for a few years," coach Anne Bezek said. "So this senior group has been there since the beginning of the rebuilding process and they've been a part of this since they were freshmen. That's what we want to win championships and get Maine East's name out there as a great volleyball school.

This senior group is the beginning of the rebuilding process and so at all four levels now, all they really know of Maine East is the higher level of achievement we've had over the last couple years."

Maine South

Top returners: Sr. L Taylor Krueger, Jr. S Stacey Sremac, Sr. MH Olivia Post

New contributors: Jr. hitter Molly Carlin, Jr. hitter Caitlin Wright

Team outlook: The Hawks graduated Maxine Kasznia and Nora Quinn, their two starting middle hitters on the 2014 squad that lost to Maine East in the Class 4A regional finals. Quinn now plays at Division I Fairfield. However, Maine South returns three starters in Krueger, Sremac and Post. The Hawks also return senior outside hitter Elizabeth Porterfield, First-year coach Joe Bangit said. "Right now, the premise is, 'Let's get comfortable with what we have.' I think we have a rather large target on our back, maybe not the largest target, but we do have a large target. That's what I want them to think about every time they practice, and that we do things a little bit faster and harder at the varsity level. By the end of the day, we're going to be the last team that's going to be outworked and we're going to outwork everyone we're playing."

Niles West

Top returners: Sr. OH Dominique Krason, Jr. OH Kaila Johanson, Jr. S Eleni Balourdos

New contributors: Jr. hitter Elmina Alic, Jr. MH Bethany Keith, Jr. LBianca Tomuta, Fr. Natalia Pehar

Team outlook: Krasna, Johanson and Balourdos have been on the Niles West varsity squad since they were freshmen and are looking to improve on a 19-14 record in 2014. The Wolves finished with a 4-6 record in the Central Suburban South and lost in the Class 4A regional finals to Schaumburg last year. Team goals include winning a regional title, finishing in the top three in conference and winning a tournament, according to Niles West coach Stacy Metoyer.

"Two years ago they won a regional title, so they definitely know what it takes to win one because they've done it before, so I think that adds a lot of good power behind that, especially Dominique being a senior," Metoyer said. "Every day in tryouts we can see how focused she is and how much it means to her, so I think she's going to be a big motivator behind the girls to stay focused and stay on task to reach our goals."

Niles West also returns sophomore middle hitter Nicole Zelazko, senior setter and defensive specialist Rachel Sison and senior defensive specialist Crystal Vu.

Niles North

Top returners: Sr. OH Carolyn Dwyer, Sr. OH Nina Yonan


Team outlook: The Vikings have had several notable departures in the last two years. Taylor Louis, a 2014 Niles North graduate, and Amanda Green, a 2015 graduate, now play at Marquette and Mike Cott, the Vikings' coach from 2008-14, left to become the Maine West coach. According to new coach Terri Van Der Jeugd, Niles North faces a rebuilding season in 2015. Dwyer and Yonan are expected to lead a young Vikings team. Van Der Jeugd believes the team's assets are its athleticism and the players' ability to play multiple positions.

"We are a new team and we are rebuilding and we are a young team, but the one positive thing that I think is going to help us a lot is these girls don't just have one particular position," Van Der Jeugd said. "All the players are utility players. They are great in all positions."

Todd Marver is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Several area boys soccer teams have new coaches.
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