A tale of redemption
Former NBA player Chris Herren tells story of drug abuse. Page 6

Former NBA player Chris Herren shared his tale of drug abuse and redemption at Notre Dame College Prep on Sept. 1.

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A sobering truth

 Former NBA player Chris Herren shares tale of drug abuse, redemption at NDCP

BY ALICIA RAMIREZ
Pioneer Press

A little over 20 years ago, former NBA player Chris Herren was a high school student sitting in a gymnasium listening to a speaker telling him the dangers of drinking alcohol, smoking pot and doing other drugs. He was just like the students he spoke to Sept. 1 at Notre Dame College Prep in Niles. Now, at the age of 39, Herren, instead of sitting there listening to the message, was the one delivering it.

“This is the age when our students are facing difficult situations about important life decisions and healthy choices that can impact the rest of their lives,” Daniel Tully, principal of Notre Dame College Prep, said. “Anything we can do to give them some tools to be prepared benefits us.”

As a high school student in Fall River, Mass., Herren was a standout on the basketball court at Durfee High School. By the time he was a senior in 1993, there was a book written about his team, “Fall River Dreams,” with Herren as the central figure.

On the weekends, in his high school days, Herren said he would drink with his friends and smoke pot.

“I started drinking at 14 and I started smoking at 15,” he said.

Tully, a member of the Notre Dame staff asked Herren what they - teachers, coaches, coordinators and staff - could do to help, he simply said to challenge the students to be as good off the court and outside of the classroom as they are during a game or taking a test.

At Notre Dame College Prep, Tully said a school group, Peer Helpers Club, helps to organize activities related to Red Ribbon Week, anti-drunk driving campaigns and other activities.

Tully also said that the school has received a grant from Ford and the state of Illinois to host activities such as seat-belt wearing campaigns and social norms sharing programs that point out students who do not drink or do drugs in the majority.

And, after hearing from Herren, Tully said, the school has implemented a student leader program.

“Today, we had over 50 student leaders enter each advisory [homeroom] and speak with our students to share feedback and reflection after Chris’ talk,” Tully said in a Sept. 4 email. “We plan to have monthly follow-ups.”

Herren said he wished his coaches, teachers, parents and friends challenged him to be better, do better and want better for himself.

Herren went to Boston College on a basketball scholarship, but was kicked out his freshman year for failing three drug tests.

Youth substance abuse declining according to data

During the time former NBA player Chris Herren was in high school, substance abuse among youths spiked, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

But over the past two decades, the use of alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs and inhalants has decreased from peak usage in the late '90s, and that trend is one that has been seen in Niles as well, officials say.

“With every community, there is experimentation that goes on, but we have not had a drug overdose or anything of that nature that has been going on in the past couple of years for youths,” Sgt. Robert Tornabene, public information officer for the Niles Police Department, said.

Tornabene said one part of ensuring students don’t start using drugs or alcohol is to point out that those who do not are in the majority. That statement is backed by the annual Monitoring the Future survey conducted in 2014 by NIDA.

In that survey, only 11.7 percent of eighth-graders reported using marijuana in the past year; 1 percent reported using OxyContin; 1 percent reported using Vicodin; 1 percent reported using cocaine of any form, and 0.9 percent reported using MDMA.

While marijuana use spiked in 12th-graders, with 35.1 percent stating use in the past year, only 4.8 percent reported using Vicodin, 3.6 percent reported using MDMA, 2.3 percent reporting using OxyContin and 2.6 percent reported using cocaine of any form.

Illicit drug use for all grades was 27.2 percent in 2014, down from a peak of 34.1 percent in 1997.

As for alcohol, only 9 percent of eighth-graders, 23.5 percent of 10th-graders and 37.4 percent of 12th-graders reported past month usage. Along with a decrease in alcohol usage by these age groups of 5.9, 6.9 and 6.1 percent, respectively, there was also a decrease in binge drinking by seniors.

“We'll get occasional issues, but we have not had a spike in parties at home that happened years and years ago in many communities, because a lot of parents thought it was safe for kids to drink at home,” Tornabene said.

While data and officials say drug and alcohol use has decreased throughout the nation and in Niles, Tornabene said that the department is sure to touch base with youths in the village.

“We have a fairly strong drug prevention program that works in the schools,” he said. “Our officers go through and go into all of the schools on a regular basis and they teach classes and they interact pretty heavily with the students.”

— Alicia Ramirez

Alicia Ramirez is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Niles St. John Oktoberfest adds extra day of activities

BY ALICIA RAMIREZ
Pioneer Press

St. John Brebeuf Parish in Niles is getting ready to host its annual Oktoberfest, now a three-day festival celebrating all things German. "This will be our second year," John Jekot, event co-chairman, said. "We just want to bring the community together and have activities that bring the parish together."

Last year's event was a two-day long festival, but this year, the event will take place Sept. 18-20 at the church, 8305 N. Harlem Ave., under a large tent.

Throughout the three days, there will be live entertainment, food, beverages, an all-school reunion, a farmer's market and a motorcycle show.

"I'm looking forward to the motorcycle show," Jekot said. "I've been to car shows, but never a motorcycle show."

As for the food, a big draw for any event, the German dinners will feature brats, German potato salad and sauerkraut along with hot dogs, pretzels and beef sticks.

Daily admission for those 21 and older is $5 with a three-day pass offered for $10. Free admission is offered for those 21 and older who arrive Saturday before 4 p.m. and Sunday before 2 p.m. Admission is free for anyone under 21 years of age.

While last year's event took place over a rainy weekend in October, Jekot is hoping that the weather holds and the crowds come out to enjoy the weekend of fun.

"Our main goal is to get the community together," Jekot said. "Everyone is welcome."

Alicia Ramirez is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

St. John Brebeuf Oktoberfest

FRIDAY, SEPT. 18
Hours: Tent open 5-11 p.m.
Entertainment: Accordionist Michael J. Gadzinski at 5 p.m.; music by Frank K and Company at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19
Hours: Tent open 2-11 p.m.
Entertainment: Accordionist Michael J. Gadzinski at 5 p.m.; music by Jimmy's Bavarians at 7 p.m.
Activities: Farmers market; all-school class reunion at 6:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 20
Hours: Tent open 12-6 p.m.
Entertainment: Accordionist Michael J. Gadzinski at 2 p.m.; music by Jimmy's Bavarians at 4 p.m.
Activities: Motorcycle show at 1 p.m.

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Lauretana Fest makes debut in Niles

BY PAM DEFIGLIO
Pioneer Press

A 115-year-old Italian festival took place in Niles for the first time on Labor Day weekend, attracting large and enthusiastic crowds and garnering praise.

The Maria Santissima Lauretana festival, which is part Catholic religious celebration and part full-fledged Italian-American festival, featured an old-fashioned tradition called the "Flight of the Angels," as well as Italian food booths, a carnival and a full schedule of Italian-themed live music. It took place on Church Street and in Golf Mill Park, just south of Golf Mill Shopping Center.

The Maria Santissima Lauretana festival moved this year from Berwyn, where it has been held for more than 20 years, to Niles.

"The people of Berwyn were very gracious to us, but our members on the Northside complained it was too far, so we moved it back," said Joe Camarda, president of the Maria Santissima Lauretana Society of Altavilla Milicia in Chicago, in an interview earlier this summer.

One tent set up as a shrine attracted a steady stream of worshippers, who knelt to pray in front of a sacred painting which legend says came from a pirate ship and washed up on the shore of Altavilla Milicia, a town in Sicily, 400 years ago.

Tony Giacone of Niles, whose said his father came from that town, and many of his relatives in the Maria Santissima Lauretana Society were hoisting a large float containing the sacred painting inside an ornate housing, during a procession Sept. 6.

"I'm ecstatic about the fest coming to Niles," he said. "We're hoping it's a mainstay here for the next 100 years."

Paul Faso of Park Ridge and his brother Vince said they had traveled to Altavilla Milicia in Sicily to carry the religious float containing the sacred painting in the Maria Santissima Lauretana festival there, where it originated.

"The Virgin Mother had a mind of her own - whatever house she passed by, if she didn't want to move, you couldn't move her," said Paul. "If she didn't want to stay, she ran."

Vince, of Hoffman Estates, added, "We didn't believe our father [Francesco Faso of Carpentersville, who was born in the Sicilian town], when he told us this, but I gave it my all, and I couldn't move it. Without being there, you couldn't believe it, but it actually happened."

Asked to what he attributed that, he replied, "Faith."

On Sept. 6, they were helping carry the float to the scaffolding for the festival's highlight, the Flight of the Angels ritual. There, on two platforms about 60 feet apart, the girls, wearing angel-like dresses, climbed up onto platforms well above the crowd, got fitted into harnesses and were "frowned," via a rope and pulley system, to meet in the center.

The girls recited the prayers at the 5:30 p.m. flight, and a different pair, Concetta, 10, and Isabella, 9, Anemone, who are sisters, recited at the 8:30 p.m. flight.

Maria Camarda, the grandmother of one of the girls, said the elaborate dresses were made 37 years ago, and the girls playing the angels have been wearing them ever since.

Maria's husband Joe Camarda, president of the Maria Santissima Lauretana Society, said he was grateful to Niles officials for giving the festival a warm welcome. Like many others, he said the crowded had ballooned over previous years.

"I see so many people coming to Niles years ago. Because the temperature reached 90 degrees Sept. 6, she said he was unable to come due to his health.

Looking out at the crowd, she said, "This is my dad's dream. He would have been beaming right now."

Pam DeFiglio is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Evanston man who stole car with child inside sentenced to prison

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON AND BRIAN COX
Chicago Tribune

An Evanston man who caused a statewide Amber Alert last year after he stole a car, where a 5-year-old boy was sleeping, in Park Ridge is headed to prison, authorities said.

Judge Lauren Edlin sentenced Deangelo Fountain, 19, of the 1300 block of Fowler Avenue, to 10 years in prison after Fountain pleaded guilty on Sept. 8 to aggravated vehicular hijacking, according to a spokesman with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office.

In a separate case, Fountain also received a four-year prison sentence after pleading guilty to one count of residential burglary, according to the state's attorney's office. Fountain will serve the two sentences consecutively, authorities said.

Fountain must serve at least 85 percent of the 10-year sentence and will receive 849 days of time served, the office said. The time served includes the months he spent in Cook County Jail after his February 2014 arrest and time he spent on electronic monitoring stemming from the separate burglary charge, state's attorney's officials said.

According to authorities, Fountain was charged with aggravated vehicular hijacking, aggravated kidnapping and unlawful possession of a stolen vehicle. As part of a plea agreement, the other charges against Fountain were dropped, officials said.

Fountain, then a student at Metropol Cruiser School in Arlington Heights, had left school early and was walking through a Park Ridge neighborhood on the afternoon of Feb. 20, 2014, when he saw a 2012 Audi parked and running while a woman unloaded groceries from the car, authorities said. They said Fountain jumped into the Audi and started driving away, with the woman's 5-year-old son asleep in the back seat.

When the woman saw Fountain driving off, she jumped on the car's hood and screamed that her child was inside, authorities said. They said she was able to pull open the driver's-side door, but that Fountain pushed her away and drove off.

Park Ridge police alerted all police departments in the area and a statewide Amber Alert was issued. A man who heard the Amber Alert found the car about six miles away in a Skokie alleyway, authorities said, and the boy, unhurt, was nearby.

Police were able to identify Fountain as the carjackers from security pictures taken in a Des Plaines storage facility earlier in the day after police responded to a separate report of a suspicious person, authorities said.

After his arrest, Fountain admitted to taking the car and said that when he realized a child was in the back seat, he panicked and abandoned the car, according to authorities.

At the time of the carjacking, authorities said, Fountain was wearing an electronic monitoring bracelet for a separate residential burglary case. Fountain has been in custody since his arrest.

Jennifer Johnson is a Pioneer Press reporter. Brian Cox is a freelance reporter.

Car crash kills power to Walgreens

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

A vehicle struck a traffic signal and an electrical pole the afternoon of Sept. 8 at a busy Harwood Heights intersection, knocking out power for a nearby business for a brief period, police said.

A Chevy Suburban traveling southbound on Harlem Avenue left the roadway at approximately 2:35 p.m. on Sept. 8, and struck the traffic and electrical poles at the intersection at Foster Avenue, according to to Harwood Heights police Chief Jim O'Grady.

A man driving the SUV was the only person involved in the accident, police said. He was released from the scene without injuries.

"He hit the light pole pretty hard — right in the dead center of the hood," O'Grady said.

ComEd workers responded to the scene that afternoon and repaired the damaged utility pole and a wire that had been taken down as a result of the accident, O'Grady said.

"Walgreens lost power briefly, but it was restored right away," he said. "ComEd came out very quickly and did a great job."

Police had not charged the driver, pending a review of the video footage from a camera at the intersection.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
The following items were taken from the Niles Police Department reports. An arrest does not constitute a finding of guilt.

RETAIL THEFT
- Dorothy Scaduto, 37, of the 8600 block of Golf Road, Niles, was charged with retail theft Sept. 5 after she allegedly stole $38.72 worth of grocery items from a store on the 8500 block of Golf Road. She has an Oct. 14 court date.
- Eneida Cruz-Salgado, 51, of the 300 block of Inland Drive, Wheeling, was charged with retail theft Sept. 5 after she allegedly stole women's and children's clothing valued at $214.22 from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center. She has an Oct. 14 court date.
- A 13-year-old Niles girl was charged with retail theft Sept. 7 after she allegedly stole $270 worth of cosmetics from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center by placing the items in her backpack. A petition to juvenile court was pending.
- Razvan Timar, 23, of the 9300 block of Osceola Avenue, Morton Grove, was charged with retail theft Sept. 6 after he allegedly stole a sweater and a bottle of perfume from a store at Golf Mill Shopping Center. He has an Oct. 14 court date.

THEFT
- A cell phone was reported stolen Sept. 7 from a shopping cart inside a store on the 7200 block of Dempster St.
- A woman reported that her purse was taken and thrown in the garbage Sept. 7 while she was inside a bar on the 8700 block of Milwaukee Avenue. A cell phone was reported stolen.
- A 22-year-old man told police he paid $300 for a phone on Central Road. The paint was reported stolen.

PROPERTY DAMAGE
- On Sept. 4, light fixtures were broken and someone spray-painted over parking space numbers outside an apartment complex on the 7900 block of Caldwell Avenue.
- On Sept. 5, a woman reported that someone used spray paint to cover up the Obama/Biden bumper sticker on her car while it was parked in a lot on Central Road. The paint also caused damage to the car's bumper, police said.

Police: Man charged after grabbing woman's wallet, throwing it in toilet

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

A Chicago man suspected of stealing a woman's wallet out of her hands was nabbed by police after allegedly trying to hide inside a Niles restaurant men's room stall.

A police officer who arrived in the area reported seeing Young walking through a parking lot toward the corner of Touhy and Central avenues. According to police, the officer approached in a squad car, Young began running west, but fell to the ground after a piece of shrapnel struck him as he passed an area containing dumpsters. The officer lost sight of Young, but was informed by customers eating on the patio of a nearby restaurant that a man had just run past them into the building, police said.

According to police, Young had locked himself inside a men's room stall, requiring an officer to kick open the door after Young refused to come out. Inside the toilet, police reportedly located a green baseball bat that Young had been seen wearing as well as an orange wallet that police said the victim positively identified as belonging to her.

While searching Young, police reported finding $75 in cash and an ATM card with the victim's name on it.

Young was held without bond at Cook County Jail.

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PRESENTED BY At The Lake
Niles, Morton Grove beef up Metra patrols

Illinois Rail Safety Week
Sept. 13-19

BY NATALIE HAYES
Pioneer Press

Train commuters and motorists will notice heavier police presence at the train crossings in Niles and Morton Grove this week as police plan to crack down on enforcement as part of Illinois Rail Safety Week (Sept. 13-19).

Illinois Rail Safety Week is an annual statewide push to get police departments to promote vehicular and pedestrian safety near railroad tracks by increasing enforcement efforts and by distributing educational material about railroad laws and safety tips via social media and in person.

Both Morton Grove and Niles Police plan to issue citations for violations that could pose a risk to safety, including motorists who pass through the gates blocking the tracks after the lights warning of an approaching train start flashing.

Police also plan to ticket pedestrians who violate the gates when boarding or leaving the trains, and officers will be checking for vehicles that attempt to cross the tracks during high-traffic periods without having a clearing on the other end of the tracks.

Morton Grove police commander Paul Yaras said drivers should never proceed over the tracks unless there’s enough room on the other side to continue driving.

Metra police plan to conduct more than 40 enforcement details at various railroad grade crossings throughout the six-county region it serves during Illinois Rail Safety Week, according to a spokesperson.

Metra spokesman Michael Gillis declined to say which Metra stations would be targeted this week.

“We’re not announcing where we’re doing it in advance,” Gillis said. “We’re looking for anyone who ignores gate bells and lights and anyone trespassing along the railroad right-of-way.”

Metra is also hosting a series of “safety blitzes” at 20 commuter stations throughout the Metra system where employees and volunteers will be on hand to distribute information to help promote rail safety awareness.

Niles hasn’t had any fatalities at its Metra rail crossing at Touhy Avenue just east of Lehigh Avenue in recent years, according to Niles Police Sergeant Robert Tornabene, but Morton Grove has seen several fatal accidents at the train crossing at Lehigh Avenue.

Gillis said three fatalities occurred near the Metra line in Morton Grove during the past five years and another fatality was added to the list this past May when a 61-year-old Morton Grove woman was struck and killed by an Amtrak train at Lehigh and Lincoln avenues.

Another fatality in Morton Grove happened Aug. 4, 2014 when an outbound Metra train traveling on the Milwaukee District/North Line railroad struck and killed a man who authorities said jumped in front of the train near Beckwith Road.

While many deaths that occur near tracks are due to suicide, some happen when people aren’t paying attention.

In July 2012, a Skokie man was killed as he crossed the tracks near the Metra line in Morton Grove to meet his fiancé, who was waiting on the platform on the other side, police said.

Instead of going around the signalized crossing area, he jumped across the tracks to get to the other side, and he was clipped by a train.

In Skokie, where the only train crossing is the CTA Yellow Line, which is not currently running due to the collapse of an embankment supporting the tracks near McCormick Boulevard north of Howard Street and south of Oakton Street, the police department is participating in Rail Safety Week on social media, according to officer Eric Swaback, spokesman for the Skokie Police Department.

Morton Grove and Niles Police said officers in marked and unmarked vehicles will be stationed near the Metra rail crossing at Touhy Avenue, which is not currently running.

A total of 79 people were injured or killed near rail crossings in Illinois in 2014, and 48 people were injured or killed in trespassing incidents last year, according to Metra, and in the first half of 2015, 78 people have been injured or killed near rail crossings.

For the Niles Police Department, this is the third year police are participating in Rail Safety Week, Tornabene said.

"Officers will be out there during all the peak times issuing tickets is they find someone doing something dangerous," he said.

Natalie Hayes is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Sept. 11 memorial unveiled, dedicated

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

Four years after acquiring a steel beam from the World Trade Center, the city of Park Ridge unveiled its new 9/11 memorial during a ceremony marking the 14th anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

Lifting the American flag that covered it, members of the Park Ridge Police Department Honor Guard on Sept. 11 revealed the 6-foot-long beam attached to a cylindrical base on the grounds of City Hall. The unveiling was followed by a performance of “Taps” by Maine South High School musician Elizabeth Porterfield.

Despite the steady rainfall, a crowd of local officials, emergency personnel and residents gathered for the nearly hour-long commemoration, which included prayers by Park Ridge Police Department chaplains, patriotic songs sung by the Roosevelt School Chorus, a ceremonial bell-ringing by the Park Ridge Fire Department and reflections on the day by acting Mayor Marty Maloney, 2nd Ward Ald. Nicholas Milissis, Illinois State Police Chaplain John Paul Cañero and former United Airlines crisis manager Lisa Page.

“This will serve as a reminder of heroes all over the world and here in Park Ridge who keep us safe every day,” Maloney said of the memorial, which is located at the corner of Butler Place and Courtland Avenue.

The ceremony also featured remarks from Maine South student Austin Derrick, who, as a very young child, learned of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks from his new home in Germany, where he and his family had moved just two days earlier.

Gwen Maramba, a student at Mary, Seat of Wisdom School who was born in 2003, spoke of knowing only a post-9/11 world. Park Ridge Fire Chief Jeff Sorenson credited Maloney and City Manager Shawn Hamilton for the memorial’s completion after four years of starts and stops in the planning process.

“You needed people at the top driving this to make sure it was completed,” he said. “And I think it looks great.”

It was Milissis who initially pushed to revive the project in late 2013. Work had stalled earlier that year after the Park Ridge Public Art Commission, charged with the task of recommending a design, selected one estimated to cost $320,000. But after Art Commission officials presented the original proposal, the City Council didn’t act on the plan.

The board ultimately went with a different plan in May 2015, designed voluntarily by long-time Park Ridge resident and architect Ralph Cincinelli.

“It was a continuing part of me wanting to give back to the community,” Cincinelli said. “It was something simple I could do and I enjoyed doing it. I was honored to have been given the chance.”

The fact that the steel beam slopes from east to west is symbolic of the rising and setting of the sun, Cincinelli said.

“The cost of building the memorial has so far been borne by the city. Milissis said the expense will be covered through donations and through the sale of engraved bricks that Hamilton said probably will go on sale in October or November.

Any money raised that exceeds the cost of the memorial will be set aside for a separate police and fire memorial, Hamilton said.

jjohnson@pioneerlocal.com
Twitter@Jim_Pioneer
Pace may hike cash fares by 25 cents

Proposal intended to encourage wider use of Ventra cards

**By Richard Wronski**
Chicago Tribune

Pace bus riders who pay with cash could see a 25-cent fare increase under a recommendation floated Wednesday.

The proposal would increase cash fares to $2. Pace bus customers who use Ventra cards, the large majority of riders, would continue to pay $1.75 per trip, officials said.

The cash-only fare hike is not a "revenue generator necessary to balance the budget," but instead would encourage more passengers to use Ventra, officials said.

The fare hike is tentative for now, and Pace's board took no action on it Wednesday. The recommendation was part of a preliminary 2016 capital budget proposal totaling $476 million.

The budget proposal assumes that Pace will continue to receive an $8.5 million grant from the state for paratransit service. But that Pace will continue to receive an $8.5 million grant from the state for paratransit service. But officials said "some state budget proposals" have eliminated or reduced this grant.

The Bruce Rauner administration has proposed such a cut.

The proposal would increase cash fares to $2. Pace bus customers who use Ventra cards, the large majority of riders, would continue to pay $1.75 per trip, officials said.

"We're hopeful that this grant will be included in the state's final budget and pledge to continue working with state leadership to illustrate how essential this service is to the region's people with disabilities," Pace Executive Director TJ Ross said in a statement.

"We will monitor the situation and prepare contingency plans should the funding not materialize. We are very concerned because a fare increase would be difficult for many riders to afford."

Pace said it was following the lead of other agencies like the CTA and the Illinois Tollway in promoting electronic fare payments over cash.

Shifting cash-paying customers to Ventra reduces the costs of handling cash and would provide more convenience and money-saving benefits to customers, Ross said.

Over 80 percent of the rides taken on Pace are paid for using Ventra, so the proposed increase would only affect a minority of customers, officials said.

"Between Ventra's website, toll-free phone number, vending machines, expansive retail network and the Ventra smartphone app that debuts later this year, Ventra is more convenient and accessible than ever, so we believe the time is right to incorporate a cash fare policy employed by other agencies to reduce our costs for handling cash," Ross said.

The preliminary budget earmarked $1 million in service expansion, but Pace has not identified those services yet.

**NILES TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 219 BRIEFS**

**By Natalie Hayes**
Pioneer Press

News from the Sept. 8 Niles Township High School District 219 Board of Education meeting.

**Director of fiscal management leaves**

Nikita Johnson-White, former director of fiscal management for School District 219, left the school district last month.

Eric Trimberger, the school district's assistant superintendent for business, was appointed by the school board on Sept. 8 to fill Johnson-White's role as the authorizing agent for the district's Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.

School District 219's director of community relations, Jim Szczepaniak, did not provide details of Johnson-White's departure, other than to say she left to accept a new role.

**Therapy providers' contract renewed**

The school board on Sept. 8 renewed a contract with Educational Based Services for an occupational therapist at a rate of $75.97 an hour, or approximately $109,396 for the 2015-16 school year.

The board also renewed a contract with GL Speech Associates for speech therapy services at a rate of $76 an hour, or about $41,000 for the school year.

**Car donated to auto program**

A 2003 Buick Century was donated to the automotive program at Niles West High School. The car was donated by James Lundgren.

**District 219 students heading to Spain**

Niles North and Niles West high schools will participate in a cultural learning exchange program this year, following the board's approval on Sept. 8.

A group of students from both schools will travel to Spain this school year to study the country's history and culture. The total cost of the trip is $34,500 and the fees will be 100 percent covered by the students, according to the board.

**Niles Township debate to be held at Niles West**

The annual Niles Township Invitational was scheduled to be held at Niles West on Sept. 11 through Sept. 13.

About 60 debate teams from across the Midwest will compete at the tournament, and debaters who advance to the semifinals and championship rounds of the tournament will receive a bid to the Tournament of Champions, according to information from the school district.

The Tournament of Champions is hosted by the University of Kentucky each year at the end of the season and is the national championship for fast-paced policy debate. Teams need two bids to qualify for the event.

**School board meeting scheduled**

The next school board meeting will be held Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 6:45 p.m. at the administration building, 7700 Gross Point Road, Skokie.

**Heritage Museum to host Historic Bungalow Walking Tour**

**By Lindsey Compton**
Pioneer Press

Exercise mind and body at the Historic Bungalow Walking Tour hosted by the Skokie Heritage Museum Sept. 20 from 2-3:30 p.m.

Beyond raising money for the museum, the tour aims to educate residents on the "technological advancements in the 1910s and 1920s" as reflected by the homes built during those times, said Amanda Hanson, the museum's supervisor. She added that "societal changes of a growing middle class community" during that era.

"We thought highlighting these types of homes, which were common in the Chicago and Midwest, would be of interest," Hanson said. "Hopefully, the tour will give those interested a better understanding and appreciation of the historical impact of these types of homes in the community."

In its second year, the tour has partnered with the Skokie Park District's 2B Fit program to combine physical activity with intellectual advancement," she said. The Park District's initiative encourages people to commit to a healthier lifestyle via exercise, socialization, proper nutrition and a few other components.

Many of the homes on the tour are from the 1920s, 1930s and everyone will be educated about the different styles built during that period.

All homes are currently occupied, and only the exterior will be viewed. The tour is approximately 10 to 11 blocks, Hanson said, and pre-registration is required as space is limited. The tour will begin at the Skokie Heritage Museum located at 8031 Floral Ave.

To register, purchase tickets and for more information, visit www.skokieparks.org.

Lindsey Compton is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Goldman finds peace, prize in dirt

Funeral director wins landscaping contest

BY RONNIE WACHTER
Pioneer Press

When he returns home from a day spent in the business of death, Irwin Goldman of Buffalo Grove sits inside the celebration of life he built in his backyard.

"Coming home gives me my solace," he said. "Work can be somewhat stressful, dealing with families in their most stressful time."

Goldman is a funeral director, operating a pair of locations in Skokie and Buffalo Grove. He said working with clients undergoing tragedy can throw weight on a man's soul, so he stays buoyant by landscaping.

The Buffalo Grove Arts Commission recently named Goldman's property on Crab Apple Terrace the winner of its landscaping contest. Arts Commission Chairman Elliott Hartstein made the announcement to the three finalists and a crowd Sept. 5, during Buffalo Grove Days.

"To be recognized was very rewarding — it put an exclamation on what I do," Goldman said. "But I don't do this for the recognition. I do it for myself."

"The lawn provided me with an ability to express myself through nature," he said.

When he bought a two-story colonial house in Buffalo Grove 23 years ago, the front, back and side yards were empty. He said he has since filled them with about 40 trees and innumerable bushes, water features in a hole he dug himself and several custom-made planting pots and artistic decorations.

For 14 years, he has owned Goldman Funeral Group. He said that he has seen probably every variation of mourning and every family dynamic possible. Some days, a relative who did not visit a dying person in the hospital shows up for the final service and other, more-involved relatives might have an opinion to share. Other days, he works with adult children who might have had a wide spectrum of relationships with the lost parent, and other siblings. Every day, he has to dress and comport himself to show that day is of unique importance to him, too.

"You need that seventh sense going," he said. "When I come home, I've given everything I have to my families."

But he always has a little something left — and he puts it in his yard.

Goldman wants his lawn to be an art show. To that end, he frequents the Lincolnshire and Buffalo Grove art fairs, looking for things his plants can grow on, up or in. He said he works with Lincolnshire-based Didier Farms on his arrangements.

Goldman didn't know how much he has spent over the 23 years he has cared for his lawn — but he estimates he spends $6,000 a year on fertilizer, art, water and new plants, plus another $2,000 on professional landscaping.

"I'm a little nutty about this," he said.

He jokes that his wife, Felicia, "is not one to get her hands dirty" but might sometimes take the credit for the Goldman family lawn.

When he won the landscaping contest, the Arts Commission gave him a first-place sign to place in his yard. The sign is in the garage.

Irwin Goldman examines one of the many flower baskets that fill his yard.

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NEWS

For memory care patients, Music Is Medicine helps them to heal

Nonprofit started by Deerfield brother-sister team

BY JACKIE PILOSSOPH Pioneer Press

Saleel Huprikar is a Deerfield High School senior who loves playing rock music on the piano.

His sister, Annika, an eighth-grader at Shepard Middle School, is a competitive classical pianist and viola player.

But both have a common interest: giving back. Performing for memory care patients in assisted living facilities as a form of music therapy is the foundation for Music Is Medicine, the non-profit organization the two siblings started last year.

“We thought, ‘How can we transform what we love to do to some kind of community service?’” said Annika, who began playing piano at the age of five and viola at age nine. “We read an article about how this girl was donating her time at a hospital, playing her violin over the intercom and we thought that was interesting.”

“We researched patients with dementia and Alzheimer’s and we learned that music helps soothe memory care patients, and helps them regain lost memories,” said Saleel.

Along with their friend, Ben Palmer, a senior at DHS, who plays the steel pan drum, Saleel and Annika put on 40-minute shows playing the piano and viola two to three times per month at assisted living facilities all over the North Shore.

The performances include songs by the Bee Gees, Steely Dan, The Beatles, David Bowie, Thompson Twins, The Eagles, Jackson Browne and The Cars.

“The music brings back all types of memories,” said Keyla Rivera, who is the Activities And Volunteer Coordinator for Sunrise of Highland Park, where the two have performed on four different occasions. “Residents may forget things quickly, but you can put on any song and they are singing along and they start bringing up stories and talking about things that happened in the past that they wouldn't bring up in regular conversation. The music really strikes a memory.”

“The patients light up when they start to play and they don't want them to leave,” said the kids’ mom, Aparna Huprikar, who assists in setting up the shows. “They ask questions at the end and it shows how engaged they are.”

Annika said she plans to continue growing the nonprofit, even after her brother leaves for college next fall.

As for Saleel, he said he plans to expand Music Is Medicine in whatever college town where he ends up. “The people enjoy it,” said Annika. “While we play, I see them closing their eyes and swaying and really getting into it. That's great to see. It shows they are feeling good and being soothed by our music.”

“Annika and Saleel are fantastic,” said Rivera. “They are very warm and friendly and they get the residents moving and singing along and engaged. They're tapping their toes and clapping their hands and that is something we love to see.”

To learn more about Music Is Medicine, visit Musicmed.weebly.com.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter @lovesentially
Strength, beauty in numbers for choir
Instructor helps restore group to former glory

BY SHERYL DEVORE
Pioneer Press

Adam Clayton, a 14-year-old Lake Forest High School freshman, never dreamed he would sing a solo at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. But he did just that as a member of Voices Rising, directed by Stevi Marks of Deerfield.

"Singing there was beautiful," Clayton said, adding that Marks has instilled in him the desire to pursue a voice career.

Two years ago, Voices Rising - the children's choir under the auspices of Highwood-based Midwest Young Artists - had dwindled to just 17 members. Marks took over, and now has a choir of 70 fifth through ninth-graders from Lake and Cook counties who have, under her direction, sung at the Kennedy Center, Ravinia, and Pick-Staiger Hall at Northwestern University.

Voices Rising performs Oct. 18 at Pick-Staiger with other Midwest Young Artists groups. The group will also perform with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Choir and the Von Trapp Family Singers Dec. 18-23 in Chicago, where Marks said they will perform "a fully choreographed version" of "Jingle Bell Rock."

Musical producer and composer Gary Fry started Voices Over about a decade ago with Midwest Young Artists, which already had an orchestra and jazz program for young musicians.

When Fry, who remains on the organization's board, left to pursue other opportunities, the program quieted down and Marks was asked to get the choir back up to its former glory.

"I instantly fell in love with the program," Marks said. "Their mission statement is building a home through the power of music. That is what I'm about."

Adam said Marks makes each student feel welcome. "She's a really good teacher. She's really good with the children. Middle schoolers—they're a little crazy," he said.

Voices Rising rehearses Sunday afternoons in Highwood. Adam recently auditioned for a high school choir called VX Studio Vocal Ensemble, run by Fry through Midwest Young Artists. He said he made the cut and begins rehearsing this month.

Marks stays in close contact with Fry and considers him a mentor. But she also has her own special style of teaching that helps the choir achieve the type of tone and audiences love to hear, she said.

"Pitch, she tells her students, is the bottom of the musical triangle. When auditioning students, she listens for those who can sing in tune."

At rehearsals, she uses visual cues to remind students about proper singing. If she squishes her face, for example, she's reminding them to relax their face muscles to produce the correct vowel sounds.

"But I don't belabor that. I try to make it as fun as possible," Marks said. "I don't want to get into all the clinical things in all the rehearsals."

Still, the singers have homework. She sends recordings and notes home with them to study.

For the October concert, they'll sing a classic American spiritual and a piece in Spanish. They'll be joined by other musical groups from MYA.

Then they get ready for five December concerts with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Marks said she was thrilled when the orchestra asked Voices Rising to perform in a show called "Merry Merry Chicago" with the Von Trapp Family Singers.

Marks said she is preparing the students by having them watch "The Sound of Music" together. They'll perform "Edelweiss" in a sing-along for the concert.

"We'll all be bawling our eyes out," Marks said.

Sheryl DeVore is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Former Tribune Co. CEO Stanton Cook dies at 90

BY TED GREGORY, CHARLES STORCH, AND PATRICK T. REARDON
Chicago Tribune

Former Tribune Co. CEO Stanton R. Cook inherited an underperforming company and transformed it into a modern, diversified media corporation that broke with its conservative past, ended a May union strike and bought a Major League Baseball team.

Cook, 90, died of natural causes Sept. 3 in his Kenilworth home, said his son, Doug.

“Stan Cook was a terrific leader and one of the pioneers in diversifying media companies,” Tony Hunter, publisher and CEO of Chicago Tribune Media Group, said. “He always talked about the joy he got from working with so many talented, good people.”

Cook’s son said he “was the quintessential Midwestern gentleman” who had a very strong moral compass.

It was perhaps that moral compass that led Cook to make a startling break with the company’s conservative Republican heritage in May 1974. About a month into his job as Tribune Co. CEO and president, Cook backed an editorial that called for President Richard Nixon to resign.

That move came a week after the paper became the first to publish Watergate-related transcripts from Nixon’s scandal-plagued White House. In one day, the Tribune produced a 44-page special section that included the transcripts, an effort that TV commentator John Chancellor called at the time “a publishing miracle.”

On the corporate front, Cook made Tribune’s broadcasting unit a separate division. With the $510 million purchase of Los Angeles television station KTLA in 1985, the division became the country’s largest operator of independent TV stations.

Cook also helped lead the company from a closely held, private entity to a publicly traded company in 1983, a move that raised $206 million. But labor problems arose in the mid-1980s. Union production workers at the Chicago Tribune and Tribune-owned New York Daily News fought the introduction of new technology and changes in work rules the company sought.

In 1988, Tribune printers began a strike that would last for 10 months over company demands for more control of hiring and assignments.

In a 2008 interview, Cook said he had mixed emotions about that strike. His grandfather and uncle had been in the Chicago printing trades. Cook also knew many of the strikers working alongside them in the production department, where he’d started his Tribune career in April 1951.

“It was very tough, particularly on the picket line,” Cook recalled. “I would see my friends on the picket line. Here I was crossing the picket line, something I never thought would happen. They would say, ‘You could end this thing, you could end it now.’”

Born in Chicago on July 3, 1925, Stanton Rufus Cook and a younger sister, Nancy, grew up in a Scottish-Norwegian household in Park Ridge, then a rural community where neighbors kept chickens and a young Cook could hunt for pheasants and squirrels. His father sold insurance and his mother was a homemaker.

He attended Maine Township High School (now Maine East), where he was on the rifle team and played the euphonium in the band. Cook later sold his brass instrument so he could buy a camera — photography became a lifelong hobby for him — but he took up the horn again in middle age.

In January of 1944, six months after finishing high school, Cook entered the Army Air Forces cadet program and later gunnery school, serving mostly in Texas. A Christian Scientist like his mother, he later recalled that his Army physical was his first examination by a doctor.

Cook rose to the rank of second lieutenant by the time of his discharge in 1946. He then enrolled at Northwestern University. He graduated in 1949 with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. Shell Oil Co. hired him.

In 1950, he married Barbara “Bobbie” Wilson, whom he had met on a blind date a year and a half earlier in Evanston. The couple eventually had five children and were together until her death in 1994.

On a snowy and frigid morning in January 1951, Cook was overseeing a gas station in Waukegan when Shell had acquired it. A call came from a family friend who was a Chicago Tribune purchasing agent. The caller asked whether Cook wanted to apply to be an engineer in the paper’s production department. Cook started that April.

“That turn of events, that fork in the road, that’s how I got started with the Tribune,” Cook recalled in a 2008 interview. “But I have never forgotten that cold morning in that gas station.”

Cook became acquainted with all the paper’s mechanical operations and its workers, and he worked closely with editorial, advertising and marketing. He learned, he said in a 1996 interview, “what was in that great building, from the bottom, the lowest part of the boiler room, to the highest part of the Tower.”

The company had been in limbo since the death in 1955 of longtime Tribune Co. chief, Col. Robert McCormick. Management needed to be reorganized, financial practices standardized and editorial standards reconsidered. But many Tribune executives clung to the old ways.

One agent of change was Har-
Jealousy. To potential that comes with it. Teacher conferences and living up homework, report cards, parent-teacher conferences and living up to potential that comes with it. It's difficult. Yet, as I watch the kids, one feeling almost overwhelms me: Jealousy. Jealous of children? Not actually, I guess. Not exactly nostalgia, either. It's not something the kids themselves would understand. A lot of kids see the start of a new school year as an end to summer. The beginning of a new school year as an end to summer. Most likely, kids don't understand this. Kids don't yet understand a lot of things, which is one of the reasons they are kids. Height is another reason. The start of school is something rare and precious. It is another chance. Nothing is spoiled by past errors. Classes are new. Teachers are new. Clothes are new. Books are new. Pencils are new and come with erasers uncontaminated by mistakes. Computer screens are blank, ready and receptive to work, doodle or perhaps forming a new theory of relativity - hey, you never know. A child may have been a disruptive influence last year. A child may not have lived up to his or her potential. It doesn't matter. This is a new school year. Each kid starts from scratch. This year is going to be better. New beginnings and second chances aren't so easy for adults to come by, and usually come with a high cost - something has to be given up or sacrificed. But just think: What would you give up to wake up tomorrow morning and start fresh? Mistakes wiped out. Not having to pay today for the debt you incurred yesterday.

Crossing guard Shakundala Narayan helps a son and mother cross the street during John Mills School's first day on Aug. 17 in Elmwood Park. It's not likely. But for kids, this happens each and every year.

Ah, it's great to be a kid. But then, you probably knew that.

Paul Sassone is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

Kentucky clerk Kim Davis must obey the law

Americans like to make their own decisions rather than have them made for them. That's why, following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision legalizing gay marriage, we now have the debate being played out in the streets. I expect there to be more civil disobedience as has been seen in Kentucky involving Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis, who refused to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples seeking to get married. She based her denial on religious grounds - she's a Christian - and didn't want to participate in what she claims is a sin.

Is it possible to have religious objections to same-sex marriage? I believe it is. Before President Barack Obama said he evolved on the issue - as a candidate during his 2008 campaign for president - he opposed same-sex marriage based on his deeply held Christian faith.

Since he uttered that statement and took that position, Christianity hasn't changed any. Just ask the pope. But Obama didn't change, just as many other honest and forthright individuals did. Other honest and forthright individuals did not.

Such views are a healthy part of a theological debate on the subject. The question raised by Davis is whether a public official sworn to carry out the law can choose to carry out some laws and ignore others based on personal conviction.

The answer, I believe, is no. And it applies even to the president, who does the same thing Davis is doing on issues with which he disagrees.

Both are wrong. As I see it, Davis has two fundamental choices. The first option is to resign her position if she feels that her deeply held religious beliefs won't allow her to fulfill her public duties.

If we are going to start basing who gets a marriage license on religious grounds, then very few couples would qualify.

I've read that Davis is on her fourth marriage. She wouldn't qualify for a license in some Christian senses of the word. Nor would the couple that has cohabitated. Or the couple with a partner that looked upon some-one else with lust.

It's high time we learn to get along with each other down here, because we will be together up there.

When he fed the multitudes with just a few loaves of bread and some fish, he didn't whisper to the apostles, "But not for the gays." The main requirement of the Christian faith is not to judge others, but to love one another. Life is too short to constantly judge who is good and who isn't, and divvy out who gets what and who doesn't based on that judgment.

Randy Blaser is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.
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A fall smorgasbord of ideas

PAT LENHOFF

September. Wow. Where did summer go?
The return of autumn is unavoidable. Let’s take it easy on ourselves today and revisit the land of loose ends and random ramblings, a potpourri of simple subjects that won’t rock your world but just might flavor it.

Even In the fall, bicycling is still a popular activity. I’ve discussed the subject previously, often centered on the habits of bad bicyclists who speed, ignore traffic directives and signals and generally put drivers of motorized vehicles on edge trying to anticipate just what some cyclists might do.

I’m not sure which is worse, the daredevil antics of downtown bikers or the country roads clogged with swarms of cyclists riding four abreast on the weekend.

That’s why it was gratifying to read about a suburban North Shore police campaign this summer to ticket cyclists who don’t follow the rules of the road, which apply equally to them as well as motor vehicles.

I’m not against cycling at all. I’m against not taking responsibility for following the rules.

If equal treatment for bicycles and autos is the goal, then equal observation and enforcement of the law is warranted.

Next up?
Bovine burping.
Yes, you read correctly. Perhaps you already know this, since we live in a farm-based area, but cow burps are responsible for high levels of methane gas emission.

Without delving deep into the anatomical science, a cow’s digestive system processes an amazing amount of gas that is belched into the air as methane.

When combined with the same emission from sheep and goats, they produce a huge percentage of U.S. methane emissions (26 percent) and are one culprit in global climate change, according to a report by the Washington Post. Scientists are working to come up with methods to reduce the emissions, including a very logical approach of making cows healthier. One a chuckle-inducing idea includes a cow backpack that captures the methane so it can be recycled and used.

I wonder, has anyone thought of Gas-X?

And finally, from my resource file, earlier this year a Tribune report said that recent studies confirmed that, as far as family size goes, two children are still considered “ideal.”

I find that puzzling because it seems more and more, we hear of large families with four and even five kids, which means I haven’t gone public with my mantra to friends and family ruminating over how many children to have.

My discovery came very soon after our third and final child was born and we were dumb enough to take the family to Disney World.

At ages 16 months, 3 years and 4 years, with only four parental hands to cover six tiny hands and in the time before double strollers, I realized the huge difference between two kids and three.

I figured that if you were going to go to three, you may as well not stop there because the parent/child ratio was permanently skewed after that.

Now, none of us would wish to have any of our children missing from the picture, but I can certainly see why two children remains the industry norm.

That and the hundreds of thousands of dollars it costs to raise each child.

Pat Lenhoff is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.
viewfromvh@yahoo.com
Hope springs eternal — maybe at Hillel

SALLY HIGGINSON

Hollywood and Hillel have a lot in common. Both are in the business of producing love stories, and both encourage a captive audience to indulge in a little nosh. Occasionally the two dabble in the meaning of life, but just as often they promise no more than a roll-of-the-dice kind of evening.

Sometimes the show or the service is great, and sometimes it's just an excuse for popcorn or bagels. Either way, they only take up a few hours, so how bad can they be?

For those who celebrate the New Year in September, it's the High Holiday season, which means every ersatz yenta is in full-bore mentality.

Translation: Moms are actively footing their children to attend services for two authentic purposes. On the one hand, it's a time for religious reflection and affirmation. On the other hand — and for the sake of making my point painfully clear — I'll refer to this as the "fourth-finger-on-the-left-hand" other hand — it's an opportunity to meet "NJS" — a nice, Jewish someone.

Or, as every Jewish mother has told to her college-aged children when she urges them to show up at a campus Hillel event, "You never know who you might meet."

Truer words were never uttered. And yet, here is where the confusion between movies and matchmaking begins. There was a time when going to the cinema gave at least a nominally authentic hint about who you might meet at temple. Remember "The Way We Were"? The plot and the casting were in sync. Barbra Streisand played Katie, someone who might show up for Rosh Hashanah, and Robert Redford played Hubbell, someone who'd never heard of Rosh Hashanah. I'm not saying the story rang true, but it was trueish.

"Annie Hall" maintains that same verisimilitude. It takes zero imagination to envision a young Woody Allen at Hillel, helping himself to another bite of schnecken. Diane Keaton? She would be at a sorority function, assiduously avoiding an invitation to a Shabbat mixer.

Fast forward to 1986, when Hollywood released "Heartburn," the cinematic adaptation of Nora Ephron's autobiographical account of her failed marriage to Washington Post reporter Carl Bernstein. Who played the leading roles? Meryl Streep and Jack Nicholson. Casting directors dug deep and came up with Streep and Nicholson to portray the unhappily married Jewish couple. I know movies aren't real, but when I consider these two playing Ephron and Bernstein, I think it's fair to suggest the movie fits into two genres: Comedy and fantasy.

All this came to mind when I read the review of the recently released "A Walk in the Woods."

Barbra Streisand played Miriam. The plot and the casting were in sync. Barbra Streisand played Miriam, someone who might show up for Rosh Hashanah, and Robert Redford played Hubbell, someone who'd never heard of Rosh Hashanah. I'm not saying the story rang true, but it was trueish.

This is how it went: "Annie Hall" maintains that same verisimilitude. It takes zero imagination to envision a young Woody Allen at Hillel, helping himself to another bite of schnecken. Diane Keaton? She would be at a sorority function, assiduously avoiding an invitation to a Shabbat mixer.

Columnist Randy Blaser summed up life perfectly

This letter is in response to Randy Blaser's Aug. 27 column titled "Life is about love and its tremendous potential."

Your column in the Aug. 27 edition of the Highland Park News really resonated with me. Toward the end of his life, I called my husband "The Poster Boy For Everything." He'd had a liver transplant and open heart surgery 19 years earlier. He also had skin and prostate cancers, asthma, kidney problems and colitis.

He was a wonderful man, upbeat and involved. Most people had no idea how sick he was. At his Shiva, I commented to the rabbi about how it seems the nicest people suffer the most. His response was that disease is not a punishment.

The days that followed, I grew philosophical. If it has to end so horribly, why are we here and what is the purpose of life?

I had my answer — to be shepherds of the earth and to care for each other. That's all. You summed it up so eloquently in your column.

Thank you.

— Alice Marcus Solovy, Highland Park
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Plenty of plays to anticipate: Here are 10

**By Chris Jones**
Chicago Tribune

Culled from more than a hundred significant openings between now and the winter holidays, here are 10 fall shows that, for one reason or another, promise to be especially interesting.

It's a mere fraction of the larger Chicago scene, and deserves to be accompanied with some excitement for "Disgraced" at the Goodman Theatre, "East of Eden" at the Steppenwolf and George Wendt in "Funnymen" at Northlight, not to mention many promising productions from such growing players as TimeLine Theater, which is taking on the Alaska oil spill for its harvest supper. And if that's not "Beautiful," the music of Carole King is coming too. All before the snow flies.

You'd be a fool to restrict yourself to 10, but here's a start for your calendar.

**"The Black White Love Play":** Perhaps the first-ever musical about an art critic, this celebration of the love of Roger and Zaza, a piece about a highly educated African-American man fighting both personal demons and his sense that he has been the victim of racial discrimination at the law firm where he hopes to make partner. This Ethan McSweeny staging, the first, will first be seen at the Flea Theatre in New York, and then move to Chicago. Nov. 6 to Dec. 13 at the American Theater Company, 1909 W. Byron St., $38-$58 at 773-409-4125 or atcweb.org

**"A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder":** The national tour of the sleeper Broadway hit, a picayune tale of crime among the gentry, is debuting in Chicago, just a few weeks after "Gentleman's Guide" announced its Broadway closing after a successful run. With a score by Steven Lutvak and a book by Robert L. Freedman, "A Gentleman's Guide" is the work of the director Darko Tresnjak, an artist who has worked often in Chicago and one of the American theater's most detailed craftspeople. Sept. 29 to Oct. 11 at the Bank of America Theatre, 18 W. Monroe St., $25-$98 at 800-775-2000

**"Fulfillment":** American Theater Company stages the latest work from the often-controversial playwright Thomas Bradshaw, a piece about a highly educated African-American man fighting both personal demons and his sense that he has been the victim of racial discrimination at the law firm where he hopes to make partner. This Ethan McSweeny staging, the show's first, will first be seen at the Plea

**"Ride the Cyclone":** Chicago Shakespeare Theater has become an important developer of new musicals and this latest endeavor, staged at the Upstairs Theatre and with Canadian origins, looks at the lives of six teenagers from a Saskatchewan chamber choir who suffer a freak accident aboard a roller coaster called the Cyclone at the "Wonderville Traveling Fairground." Rachel Rockwell, busy again this fall, both directs and choreographs. Sept. 29 to Nov. 8 at Chicago Shakespeare Theater on Navy Pier; $38-$48 at 312-337-0665 or lookinglasstheatre.org

**"Treasure Island":** For her latest all-new adaptation (produced in concert with the Berkeley Repertory Theatre), Mary Zimmerman turns to the zesty Robert Louis Stevenson classic about an adventurous young lad caught among dangerous pirates. Oct. 7 to Jan. 31 at the Water Tower Water Works, 821 N. Michigan Ave.; $35-$85 at 312-337-0665 or lookinglasstheatre.org

**"Gotta Dance":** The latest out-of-town tryout from the wildly successful Broadway director Jerry Mitchell, "Gotta Dance" tells the based-on-reality story about a group of senior citizens who became a hip-hop dance troupe. It's headed directly to Broadway with Stefanie Powers, Andre de Shields and Georgia Engel all in the cast. Dec. 13 to Jan. 17 at the Bank of America Theatre, 18 W. Monroe St., $38-$105 at 800-775-2000 and broadwayinchicago.com

**"Marvin's Room":** The venerable Shattered Globe Theatre Company has cast the Tony Award-winning actress Deanna Dunagan in a production in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the beloved Scott Mc-

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic.
The idea of performing Johann Sebastian Bach in bulk did not originate in Chicago, of course. But Stephen Alltop appears to have cornered the local market on that particular herculean endeavor.

Alltop, who's well-known as a keyboard player and conductor, also as a professor at Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music, coordinated last fall's WFMT Bach Organ Project, a 10-concert festival played by 30 organists on nine pipe organs throughout the city and suburbs.

So successful was the event that another such Bachian marathon was virtually mandatory. Beginning Friday and continuing through Nov. 1, the WFMT Bach Keyboard Festival will treat listeners to virtually all of Bach's works for piano, harpsichord, clavichord and lute - 11 concerts given by more than 70 musicians in recital halls and churches across the metropolitan area. Once again fine arts station WFMT-FM 98.7 is sponsoring the enterprise, with Alltop curating all programs.

It adds up to a boling 21 hours of some of the greatest music in the German Baroque master's vast catalog - including the "Goldberg" Variations, "The Well-Tempered Clavier," Partitas and the French and English Suites. Along with those masterpieces, you can expect to encounter a great deal of Bach's music you've probably never heard before.

The list of participating artists includes Jory Vinikour, David Schrader, Winston Choi, Adam Neiman, Anthony Molinaro, Lara Downes, Jason Moy, Sylvia Wang and Alltop. Joining in will be faculty and students from the keyboard programs of DePaul, Northwestern and Roosevelt universities, the University of Chicago and Wheaton College.

One of the highlights will be a daylong "immersion" event - a discussion and performance of the "Goldberg" Variations and Book One of "The Well-Tempered Clavier," led by Alltop, Choi and Molinaro, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 3 in Winnetka Congregational Church. The cost, including lunch, is $65 general, $35 for students.

Given the sheer volume of Bach's solo keyboard oeuvre, the fall festival will encompass some five hours' more music than last year's organ marathon, according to Alltop's calculations.

"I took advantage of a lot of the learning curve from the organ series in terms of reaching out to various musicians while organizing the repertory," he says, adding that assembling so many different programs with different performers required his exerting some "tough love."

"When you ask 70 performers what Bach they would like to play, most of them are going to choose the famous stuff. But that leaves some 60 percent of the available repertory still up for grabs, which means that I did a lot of assigning pieces. Almost everybody, including myself, will be playing some works for the first time."

One thing's certain: "I don't think there are many cities that could tackle something like this with the relative ease that we are," Alltop declares. "That gives me a tremendous sense of pride for Chicago."

Those classical fans whose fancy runs to bingeing on Bach are hereby invited to assume their positions at the starting gate.

The cost for attending the entire series is $200; individual concert registrations are $25, $15 for students. For further information, visit wfmt.com/events.

John von Rhein is a Tribune critic.
Find Yourself @ North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie

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To advertise in the Chicagoland Theatre Directory, please call 312-222-4070.
Mary Kubica follows up 'The Good Girl' with 'Pretty Baby'

BY DONALD LIEBENSON
Pioneer Press

What a difference a year makes.

In 2014, Mary Kubica, Plainfield mother of two, was a first-time author making the rounds at local bookstores and libraries to introduce herself to readers as her twisty and twisted debut novel, "The Good Girl" was gathering buzz and earning favorable comparisons to the works of Gillian Flynn. On Sept. 22, Kubica will appear at the Park Ridge Public Library as a certified New York Times bestselling author with a new novel, "Pretty Baby," that is earning equally rapturous reviews.

"It's been really exciting," said Kubica, a former teacher. "When 'The Good Girl' came out nobody knew who I was; they had maybe heard of the book but hadn't read it. (Now) when I go to events for 'Pretty Baby,' it seems a good portion of the audience has read 'The Good Girl.'"

"Pretty Baby" is a multi-perspective thriller that unfolds through the alternating voices of Heidi, a compassionate Chicago social worker, Chris, her loving, but overworked husband, and Willow, a homeless teenage mother, whom Heidi ultimately invites to move with her into her home.

"After I sold 'The Good Girl,' I was offered a two-book deal. I had no idea what I was going to write," Kubica said. "They were so excited about 'The Good Girl' I thought the second book had a lot to live up to."

A vision of Willow and her baby came to her.

"I had no idea who she was or what the story was going to be, but that was my starting point," she said. "I wrote right away what became the opening scenes in which Heidi encounters Willow for the first time, and at that point I was off and running."

As is Kubica's writing career. She has completed her third suspense novel ("Don't You Cry") to be published next summer, and is about to "dive into" her fourth. "The Good Girl" has been optioned for the screen by Anonymous Content, producers of TV series and feature films such as "True Detective," "The End of the Tour" and the upcoming Leonardo DiCaprio movie, "The Revenant." Presently, it is being discussed as a television mini-series. Kubica will have creative input into the production, but will not write the screenplay. "I have no idea how that side of the business works," she said. "It's better left in the hands of professionals."

In her book-related travels, Kubica has had the opportunity to interact with favorite authors. And now, Kubica has her own growing fan base.

"Everyday, it seems, someone is posting a comment about either of the books (on Twitter or Facebook)," she said. "They are so supportive. It makes my day. I've had a number of groups invite me to Skype with their book club. That's a really fun thing I've also gotten to do."

Success years in the making (it took her four years to write "The Good Girl" and several more to find an agent and then a publisher) has not spoiled Kubica.

"Everything is pretty much the same other than from time to time I get on an airplane to go talk to readers," she laughed. "I'm able to keep my routines. I take my children - second and fourth graders - to school and use that big chunk of the day to write so by the time I pick them up I can just focus on them. I have the best of both worlds."
Local Oktoberfest celebrations might not quite equal the 16-day, multimillion attendance of the original in Munich, but that doesn’t mean they’re not festive. If you’re looking to imbibe in brats, beer and a bit of German music, here are a list of Chicago area festivities.

The 30th Annual Berghoff Oktoberfest wraps up Sept. 17 and 18 at the Federal Building, 230 S. Dearborn Ave., Chicago. Activities take place 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and include live music, beer and brats. Visit www.theberghoff.com.

Oak Park’s Oktoberfest takes place 4-10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18, and noon to 10 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, at Marion Street and North Boulevard, south of Lake Street, downtown Oak Park. The event features food, craft beer, live music, and a kids root beer garden. Admission is free. Visit www.oktoberfest.com.

A three-day Oktoberfest takes place Sept. 18-20 at St. John Brebeuf, 8305 N. Harlem Ave., Niles. Taking place under a large tent, the event will feature live entertainment, food, beverages, an all-school reunion, farmers market and a motorcycle show. Daily admission for those 21 years old and older is $5 with a three-day pass offered at $10. Free admission is offered for those 21 years old and older for those who arrive Saturday before 4 p.m. and Sunday before 2 p.m. Hours are 5-11 p.m. Sept. 18, 2-11 p.m. Sept. 19 and noon-6 p.m. Sept. 20. For more information, call 847-966-8145 or visit www.sjbbrebeuf.org.

Oktoberfest Chicago takes place Sept. 25-27 at St. Alphonsus Roman Catholic Church, Southport and Lincoln avenues, Chicago. Hours are 5-10 p.m. Sept. 25, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sept. 26 and 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Sept. 27. Activities include craft beer tasting on Friday and Saturday, German food and beer, live music and kids games. Visit www.oktoberfestchicago.org.

The Auxiliary of the Care of Concern is hosting an Oktoberfest celebration with dinner, dancing, games, a raffle and a cash bar from 6-11 p.m. Oct. 3 at Ridgemoor Country Club, 6601 W. Gunnison St., Harwood Heights. Dinner is a German buffet and music is from the Alpine German Thunder Band. Proceeds benefit Center of Concern in Park Ridge. Visit www.centerofconcern.org/oktoberfest.

Mount Prospect’s Oktoberfest takes place 4-11 p.m. Oct. 10 at Emerson Street and Busse Avenue. The event includes food, beer and German bands. Visit www.downtownmountprospect.com.

The Irish Heritage Center’s McToberfest takes place 7 p.m.-midnight Oct. 18 at the center, 4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago. Entertainment features Frank K Duo and Company performing German music, One of the Guys performing Irish music, and Identity Irish Dancers. There will be German and Irish beer and food for purchase. Tickets $12-$15 for nonmembers and $5-$7 for members. For information, call 773-282-7035.
Dance for Life benefit raises $330,000

Chicago's dance community and its supporters came together to support artists at the 24th annual Dance for Life benefit at the Chicago Hilton on Aug. 15. The evening included a reception attended by 650 and a performance at the Auditorium Theatre.

Since its inception in 1991, Dance for Life Chicago has raised millions of dollars for the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, the Dancers' Fund, and some 30 AIDS service agencies. Dance for Life Chicago has now evolved into Chicago Dancers United, whose mission is to support Chicago organizations and dance professionals dealing with all critical health issues. The 2015 event raised $330,000.

"We do things that go beyond just health needs," said Anthony Guerrero of Chicago, who served as executive director and producer of Dance for Life for four years and is now the first executive director of Chicago Dancers United. "We know that we can't save the world, but we can do our little part."

CELEBRATIONS

Skokie couple celebrates milestone events

Doris and Irv Abramson celebrated their 90th birthdays, along with their 68th wedding anniversary, in August at a party given by their children at the Hilton Doubletree Hotel in Skokie.

The Abramsons have lived in Skokie more than 40 years. Now retired, the couple for many years owned and operated Friedman Auto Parts company in Chicago.

Over the years, the two have served their community in various ways. Irv is a board member of Skokie's Consumer Affairs Commission. A decorated World War II veteran, he now volunteers with the Honor Flight Chicago organization.

Doris and Irv have both been volunteers at St. Francis Hospital, Evanston, for more than 23 years. They attribute their longevity to an active life and a long, happy, loving marriage.

Skokie couple celebrates milestone events

Doris and Irv Abramson of Skokie, celebrating their 90th birthdays.

We want to publish your photos. To submit, visit http://community.chicago.tribune.com or email community@pioneerlocal.com.

SHARE YOUR MILESTONES

Celebrating? Send your milestone events (engagements, weddings, anniversaries, births and more) to community@pioneerlocal.com.

SCOUTS VOLUNTEER AT PARK RIDGE CHURCH

When Messiah Lutheran Church in Park Ridge needed some help to complete a campus project, the Boy Scouts of Troop 1 stepped up to the task. The Scouts worked with the church to plan and execute the project, so that in all, 159 service hours were contributed to the church campus enhancement.
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Data compiled by Record Information Services 630-557-1000 public-record.com
Under pressure

How parents can help teenagers cope with stress.

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Spices are key to flavorful cooking

Oswego shop owner recommends cutting salt

By Judy Buchenot
Beacon-News

Lori Ott has always enjoyed cooking, so when she thought about opening her own culinary company, her first thought was catering. But then she did some more thinking and decided to try opening her own spice and herb shop.

Her son, Paul Johnston, had been working with a different spice company and so she was able to draw upon his knowledge and experience as well as her own as she opened Sage Spice Shop in Oswego two years ago.

Spices and herbs are ideal for today’s cooking trend of using simple, fresh, whole ingredients to create meals. “They are great for people looking for ways to season food with less or no salt,” Ott said. “I think the biggest mistake most people make when seasoning food is to add too much salt and not enough spices and herbs.”

Johnston explained the difference between herbs and spices for those just beginning to explore new seasoning ideas.

“Both come from plants, but herbs are mainly the leafy green parts, while spices are from the other parts of the plant like the roots, flowers, fruit or seeds,” he said.

Both can be used fresh or be dried for storage. Most herbs and spices begin to lose flavor after about six months so it is important to periodically replace them. Store them in a cool, dark place when possible.

For a beginning cook, Johnston recommends filling the pantry with garlic, onion, oregano, paprika, basil, rosemary, tarragon, and salt and pepper. He then suggests adding cumin “for a warm, earthy flavor great for meats,” he said. Coriander is another suggestion with its sweet, fruity flavor, also great for meat.

An adventurous cook might want to try adding sumac, which is a spice that has a citrus flavor ideal for chicken and fish and great for hummus. Johnston also recommends a supply of dried shallots, which give a quick, sweet onion flavor to dishes. Lemon juice powder and lime juice powder are two interesting ingredients to have in the pantry to add a citrus boost to dishes. Cheddar cheese powder is another unique ingredient that provides the full, rich cheddar flavor to soups, breads and sauces.

Although salt and pepper have long been the seasoning of choice in many kitchens, Johnston said, “there are so many different flavors that will make it so you don’t even miss the salt.” He suggests using rosemary, oregano, basil, chives, onion, paprika or garlic powder on beef cuts. For fish, he suggests lighter herbs and spices like chives, lemon peel, garlic, marjoram or savory. Pork can be enhanced with smoked paprika, fennel, garlic, onion and cumin. Even vegetables can benefit with some careful seasonings like savory, oregano, thyme, garlic or parsley.

To make cooking less challenging, Ott has created many different herb and spice blends that she sells in her shop. For example, she offers a taco seasoning mix without salt, fillers, anti-caking agents or gluten. Some of her most popular blends are Chili 60543, Smokehouse Pork and the Village Seasoning.

“Everyone has different flavors they like so I also do custom blends,” Ott said.

She works with customer preferences and then has their favorite herbs and spices conveniently blended and ready to go.

Ott also offers a variety of quality baking ingredients, including cinnamon, ginger, orange peel, lemon peel and cardamom. At the checkout counter, there is a large jar of crystallized ginger that Ott said is “great in tea, mixed in a stir fry or just eaten as it is.” Extracts, teas, locally made sauces, olive oils and balsamic vinegars are also available in the shop.

Ott and Johnston enjoy sharing recipe ideas with customers looking for something different for dinner. Ott shares the recipe for village pasta, one of her quick-and-easy recipes she named to honor her hometown of Oswego. The recipe can be made in about 15 minutes and uses one of her blends that contains garlic powder, mustard powder, parsley and chives, but other seasoning mixes can be substituted.

Find more suburban cooks on page 4.
Apple Sauce is made in Niles and is now a beloved recipe. Today, Officer Mullen's targeted triumph. He championed a brand of applesauce using his mother's apples from his mom, Audre Mullen, while she was cooking with apples from her house called Happy Foods. "I really just wanted her to see it on the shelf," he said. "We would try to see who could get the longest unbroken strand of apple peel."

"Just about everything we ate was homemade," Mullen said. His mother's pork roast was the biggest hit, along with dumplings, gravy and, of course, her applesauce on the side.

Many years later, when Mullen surprised Audre with packaged bottles of her applesauce, his only goal at the time was to secure a spot for it in a small local store by her house called Happy Foods. "I really just wanted her to see it on the shelf," he said. "When we initially started and she was shopping there she would tell me how many jars were left and she would straighten out the aisle. Although she has left us I know she is here with me in spirit. She certainly has left us gold in a jar."

The texture and flavor of Mullen's sauce is similar to traditional apple pie filling - thick, chunky, sweet and tangy. The tangiest is the no sugar added version, introduced a few years ago. "It certainly has its own following but there are die-hards that will only buy the original," Mullen said.

"You can add it to morning oatmeal, as a side with dinner or warm some of and put it over vanilla ice cream for dessert," Mullen said. "To really enjoy it is best served cold."

At Maevy Public House in Lake Bluff, Chef Jasper Michael makes an apple topping that turns breakfast food into dessert. Like Mullen's sauce, his topping is a lot like filling that turns breakfast food into dessert. The flavors are a nice blend of sweet and tart (from the Granny Smith apples) that blend together to create an amazing addition to a favorite breakfast item.

For those low on time, Michael's apple pie French toast is a way to salute the season. And for those who would rather spend a day in the apple orchard rather than the kitchen, fresh can be best. "I love apples raw," Michael said. "I love the crunch, the sweetness and the various flavors. My favorite are Pink Lady and Jazz."

Chef Jasper Michael, Maevy Public House

### Apple Pie French Toast

1. In a medium pot, melt the butter and add the sliced apples. Let the apples cook for about 1 to 2 minutes over medium heat while stirring. Add the brown sugar and the spices and continue to stir until all of the sugar and spice is incorporated and the sugar starts to melt. Add the water and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to simmer the apples until they are soft, but still have a little texture.

2. Whisk the eggs, cream and vanilla together. Take two to three slices of your favorite bread (a baguette cut in long slices about 1/2- to 1-inch thick is perfect). Soak both sides of the bread while heating a pan (nonstick or cast iron). When the pan is hot, add a little butter and toast the bread on both sides until they are golden brown. Place the French toast on a plate and ladle a generous amount of the apple mixture on top. Add whipped cream and/or powdered sugar and enjoy.

Chef Jasper Michael, Maevy Public House

### Chicago's Finest Pork Loin Roast

1. Sprinkle roast with salt and pepper. In a large skillet, brown roast on all sides.

2. Bake, uncovered, in a 350-degree oven for 1 to 1 1/2 hours or until a meat thermometer inserted in the thickest part of the roast reads 145 F. Let stand for 10 minutes before slicing. Serve with 4 cups of applesauce on the side (1 cup per plate).
Love of Italian culture, food brings Amici Club together

By Judy Buchenot
Naperville Sun

Len and Fran Morgan and their daughters always enjoyed their Sunday dinners. “Every Sunday for 30 years, we went to dinner at my in-laws. My father-in-law cooked the most amazing Italian meals lasting three hours. He told us the same stories about World War II each week. I had heard them all before, but I didn’t care because the food was so good that I just listened.” After about 15 years, I realized that he wasn’t going to last forever, and the food was just too good for me not to learn the recipes,” said Len Morgan.

He began to ask his father-in-law Anthony Airdo for the recipes. “Of course, he never measured,” said Len pointing to his handwritten notes that contained phrases like “sprinkle enough cheese to cover it all” or “add enough sauce, but not too much.”

Anthony Airdo, whose nickname was Moon, passed away in 2001 after sharing many recipes with his son-in-law and daughter. There were no more Sunday feasts, but the couple found another outlet for their passion for Italian cooking though the Amici Club, a nonprofit, Naperville-based organization for people with a passionate interest in Italian food and culture.

The club was founded by Maria Mastrolanardo, who moved to Naperville in 2004 and wanted to meet others interested in Italian culture. The club incorporated in 2005 and has met since.

A club member from Italy, Luisa Mercato, started a monthly dinner meeting for the club. She dubbed it Cucina Italiana, and it became a time when members gathered to learn how to make new dishes. Although she moved back to Italy with her husband, the tradition continues.

On the first Friday of each month, the club hosts a dinner in a member’s home or at the Naperville Municipal Center that features an Italian dish, complete with recipes to share. Other members bring side dishes, and the evening is a festival of Italian food, wine and fellowship.

At another monthly meeting held at the Naperville Municipal Center, the group explores different facets of Italian culture. Members do not need to have Italian heritage, just an interest in Italian culture.

Len and Fran Morgan hosted the September Cucina in their Bolingbrook home and pulled out several of Anthony Airdo’s recipes. As club members arrived, they enjoyed slices of Spiral Roll-up Bread. “My father-in-law often made this bread for dinners,” Len said.

This cheese-filled ravioli is served with a sauce that includes Italian sausage, mushrooms and olives.

Len’s Culinary Cue

Since ravioli takes time to make, it is best to make in advance and freeze until ready to use. When freezing ravioli, lay the ravioli in a single layer on a cookie sheet. Place in the freezer until firm. Then put into freezer bags to store in the freezer.

The bread begins with a pizza dough that is rolled thinly into a large rectangle. A layer of olive oil is then brushed onto the dough and then layers of thin sliced ham, salami, capicola or mortadella are layered onto the dough. Next comes a layer of thinly sliced cheeses. Finally, the layers are topped with salt, pepper, oregano, basil, chopped parsley and other herbs of choice. The dough is then rolled up jelly roll style and brushed with beaten egg yolks before going into the oven for about 45 minutes. After cooling slightly, it’s cut into spirals and served.

As guests tasted the bread, they gave continuous comments. “It’s still warm, Len. Oh, so delicious,” began one.

“Is this also called Stromboli? I think they call this Stromboli,” said another.

As each dish arrived, the sharing of comments, recipes and suggestions flooded the room filled with lovers of all things Italian. Len had prepared homemade cheese ravioli with his father-in-law’s ravioli sauce that contained generous chunks of Italian sausage, chopped black olives and mushrooms.

Fran Morgan shows off a tray of Spiral Roll-up Bread made from her father’s recipe.

Although the conversation was in English, the room felt like an Italian family gathering with plenty of pasta, wine, bread and laughter.

Judy Buchenot is a freelance writer.

Find more recipes at trib.in/1F7z7Sw.

Cheese ravioli with Moon’s Ravioli Sauce

PASTA

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<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Ingredient</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>cups flour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>teaspoon salt</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>eggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>tablespoon oil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>tablespoons water</td>
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FILLING

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>egg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>cup Parmigiana Reggiano</td>
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<td></td>
<td>salt and pepper to taste</td>
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<td>semolina or cornmeal</td>
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SAUCE

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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>ounces mushrooms</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>cloves garlic</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>green pepper</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>teaspoon basil</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>salt and pepper to taste</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>water</td>
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</table>

1. Place 2 1/2 cups flour and salt in food processor. Mix 3 eggs, oil and water.
2. Process until dough forms a ball. If dough is too sticky, add remaining 1/2 cup of flour. Process until dough forms a ball. Let rest under a bowl for 30 minutes. Roll out dough into thin sheets to place on ravioli forms.
3. To make filling, mix ricotta, egg, Parmigiana, salt and pepper. Place a heaping teaspoon of filling into each ravioli form. Seal and place on cookie sheets lined with parchment paper and lightly sprinkled with semolina or cornmeal. Allow to rest for 30 minutes.
4. To make sauce, chop and fry sausage and remove from pan. Set aside. Pour thin layer of olive oil to coat pan. Roughly chop mushrooms, garlic, green pepper, onion and olives.
5. Place mushrooms, garlic, green pepper and onion into frying pan and start to cook. Add olives, tomato juice, oregano, basil, salt and pepper. Add water to get desired thickness.
6. Return sausage to the pan. Simmer for 20 minutes to one hour. When ready to serve, drop ravioli into boiling water. When they rise to the surface, the ravioli are ready. Pour sauce into bowl and add ravioli. Toss lightly to mix.
Dear Help Squad,

I live on disability income and have been looking for a part-time job for the last four years. Recently, my wife received and forwarded me an email offering a job for the last four years. Recently, my wife received and forwarded me an email offering a part-time job for the last four years. Recently, my wife received and forwarded me an email offering a part-time job for the last four years. Recently, my wife received and forwarded me an email offering a part-time job for the last four years. Recently, my wife received and forwarded me an email offering a part-time job for the last four years. Recently, my wife received and forwarded me an email offering a part-time job for the last four years.

I tried four different extensions and was cut off, then the fifth got me to a recording requesting I leave my name and number and I'd receive a call back within 24 hours. I left the information and never heard back.

I've sent you all the emails I received. Should I follow this any further?

Do you think it's some sort of scam?

Nathan, Holly, Mich.

This Help Squad request said “red flag” to us. However, to verify, we conducted some Internet research and reached out to Steve Bernas, president and CEO of the Chicago & Northern Illinois Better Business Bureau, and Chicago attorney Erik Kantz of Arinstein & Lehr LLP.

First off, the email Nathan received from Logistics International was oddly written, including phrases like, “Our company is a United States established merchandise sending enterprise,” “Zero profound expertise is expected,” and “Senior US citizens, who stay home, individuals, or business entrepreneurs...” perhaps indicating that the writer was not actually from the U.S.

While we were able to locate a website for a Florida-based company called Logistics International Forwarding, when Help Squad called its 800-number, we received the same message whether we pushed option 1, 2 or 3: “The person at extension 101 is not available.” Pushing option 4 for the recruitment department resulted in a click followed by disconnection.

When we conducted an Internet search of the phrase “reshipping scam,” there was no dearth of information. An article by contributing writer John Rossheim on Monster.com said: “Reshipping... scam victims are... offered an at-home job that involves repackaging stolen goods - frequently consumer electronics - and forwarding them, often outside the United States. Scammers ask victims to shell out... shipping charges, [then] pay reimbursement and compensation with a fake check. [Those who fall for [the] scams may be liable for shipping charges and... the cost of goods purchased with stolen credit cards.” Not only that, but the victims can be criminally liable because they handled stolen goods and potentially followed instructions to lie on U.S. Customs and Border Protection forms when forwarding packages abroad.

Bernas of the BBB warned simply: “If the offer seems too good to be true, it usually is.”

Help Squad’s advice to Nathan: Heed your wife’s skepticism. Skip this opportunity.

Need help?

Did a company overcharge you or deny your request for a return?
Are you the victim of fraudulent business practices?
Do you have a consumer question you would like answered?
Send your questions, complaints, injustices and story ideas to HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com and we will be happy to help you.

Cathy Cunningham is a freelance columnist for Pioneer Press.

HelpSquad@pioneerlocal.com
Twitter: @HelpSquadCC
Zoo animals let their artwork speak for them, raise money

By William Hageman
Chicago Tribune

As a means of raising money for conservation efforts in the wild, the Oakland zoo is auctioning off more than 20 works of art.

What makes these paintings special is that they were done by residents of the zoo.

Among the dozens of animal artists are Donna, an African elephant; Ting Ting, a sun bear; Jennifer the lemur; Maggie and Jeffrey, a couple of Nigerian dwarf goats; Andy, a Madagascar hissing cockroach; Brutus, a bat; and Wyatt a North American river otter. A family of meerkats also collaborated on a piece.

The zoo is quick to point out that the animals were not forced to work on the project. Zookeepers used positive reinforcement methods to get the animals to participate. Any animal that declined was allowed to sit it out.

The bidding started this week and runs through Sept. 20. For a list of artists, bidding link and additional information, go to oaklandzoo.org/Animal_Art_Show_2015.php.

This is the second year the zoo has held an art show.

Last year more than $7,500 was raised through the sale of 13 paintings.

Squirrel monkeys paint at Oakland Zoo, which is auctioning off animals' artwork as a conservation fundraiser.

PET OF THE WEEK

I lived with two kids and two cats, and my family also said that I was good with dogs. I love walks, going for car rides and tennis balls because this means a great game of fetch. I am smart and know quite a few commands. I am also perfectly happy hanging out with you, giving you kisses and oh, did I tell you I love belly rubs? All the youth volunteers that have taken me out say I am so sweet and affectionate, and they always make sure that after some walking and playing, we have some time for cuddling. I am a great fetch!

Nite Night

chicagotribune.com/pets
Visit us daily for the latest pet and animal news from the suburbs, city and beyond, plus:
- Our adoptable animals blog featuring photos and descriptions of Chicagoland pets in need of homes.
- Our suburban and city pet events calendar
- Photo galleries, videos, more
I am commitment-phobic because I break up Afraid of marriage LOVE ESSENTIALLY you just don't want to be married to him. to live life as a single person. those who enjoy being independent and women who avoid getting into a serious getting married and having kids. There are and because his experience was so painful whose parents divorced when he was a kid, For example, I know a man have different reasons for it. women out there, and all menitment-phobic" men and women can't be married. It's as simple as that. Now, do I know several couples who broke up before they eventually got back together and got married? Yes. Maybe some couples need to be break up to realize the depth of their love and commitment. But, in your case, it sounds like you have distanced yourself multiple times with this man. You might want to ask yourself why you have been willing to let him go more than once. Only time will tell whether you are commitment-phobic or if you're just not in love.

What I mean by that is a few things could end up happening in your future. One, you could talk yourself into not being afraid and you could end up getting engaged or moving in with your boyfriend. You could then either realize you had a fear that was unwarranted and live happily ever after, or you could end up moving out, breaking off the engagement, or worst of all, getting divorced because you made the wrong decision and didn't listen to your gut.

Another possibility for you is that you break it off with this guy, take some time for yourself, and then meet another man who you can't wait to move in with and marry. You will then realize you weren't commitment-phobic at all.

Here's the thing: Living with someone and being married is not easy. It's hard enough being in a serious relationship or a marriage even without fear and apprehension. So many divorced men and women I know will tell you they had doubts before they were married but that they went through with it anyhow.

My advice to you is have a heart-to-heart with your boyfriend, not with your girlfriend or your sister or even your boyfriend, but rather with yourself. Ask yourself those difficult questions that force you to look in the mirror and face what's really there:

- Do you love him?
- How do you picture your day-to-day life in a marriage to him?
- Do you trust him?
- Does he make your heart pound?
- Do you want his children?
- Is he kind?
- And the biggie:
- What is the fear that holds you back?

The answers to these questions will ultimately lead to finding out if you are commitment-phobic (like your girlfriend says) or if your boyfriend is just Mr. Wrong.

Jackie Pilossoph is a freelance columnist.
ROUNDUP | CHILDREN’S BOOKS

Look Both Ways in the Barrio Blanco
By Judith Robbins Rose, Candlewick, $16.99, ages 10 and up
Eleven-year-old Jacinta Juarez’s life is rich in love and family, but mostly confined to a an impoverished Mexican immigrant neighborhood in Denver. When copper-haired TV reporter Kathryn Dawson Dahl descends on the local youth center to film a segment on teen pregnancy prevention, the two hit it off, and Jacinta starts angling to have the glamorous “rich lady” become her “Amiga.” Dahl is more interested in platitudes — “These girls are so young, we need to be there for them.” — than all-out involvement, but she’s drawn to Jacinta’s sharp mind and (calculated) puppy-dog eyes. Slowly, these two complex characters move closer together, sharing their very different worlds. But will “Miss,” as Jacinta calls Dahl, stand by her young friend when Jacinta’s Mexican-born dad is threatened with deportation? Told in Jacinta’s witty, whip-smart voice, “Look Both Ways” is a delight from start to finish; I took it with me on vacation, forsaking some very appealing grown-up books, and couldn’t stop reading. The challenges that Jacinta faces are real and harrowing (parents in peril, domestic violence), but filtered through the perspective of a confident and resourceful tween, the subject matter is never too scary. Socially conscious kids will love discussing the moral and political issues raised here, but this book is so much more than a conversation-starter. It’s a great tale about a great girl.

Bernice Gets Carried Away
By Hannah E. Harrison, Dial Books for Young Readers, $16.99, ages 3 to 5
The author of the lovely odd-dog-out story, “Extraordinary Jane,” is back with a new cast of remarkably detailed and expressive animals. Our heroine, Bernice, is a silver tabby kitten with a pink party dress and a scowl worthy of feline Internet icon Grumpy Cat. Bernice’s nose is out of joint for good reason. She’s the only one at the birthday party who doesn’t get a frosted rose on her cake and the only one who doesn’t get an ice-cold strawberry-melon soda. When it’s time for balloons, Bernice, determined not to be left out again, makes a rash move with potentially dangerous consequences. It’s up to Bernice to save herself and restore a spirit of sharing to this birthday party gone awry. Harrison once again spins a magical tale here, particularly in the beginning, when her distinctive animals come to candy-colored life against shadowy backgrounds and gray skies. Harrison’s balloons are brighter and more buoyant than the real thing, her pig has just the right degree of pink swinish baldness and she gives us a heroine whose fluffy perfection is spiked, adorably, with messy ear tufts and party hats that ride askew. The last part of the tale, in which Bernice makes peace with her demons, is maybe just a touch too sugary sweet for my taste, but the explosion of smiles and bright colors will delight young readers.

CHICAGOLAND BEST-SELLERS

1. “Between the World and Me” by Ta-Nehisi Coates (Spiegel & Grau, $24).
3. “The Assassination of Margaret Thatcher: Stories” by Hilary Mantel (Picador, 289 pages, $16)
4. “Embellished Rebel: Jefferson Davis and the Confederate Civil War” by James M. McPherson, Penguin, 302 pages, $17

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).
On And On: But ending appropriately

BY S.N. | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN

(lastxwords.com)

Across
1  Overly sweet
7  Online show
14  Sever, as branches
20  Geronimo, for one
21  Satirical writer P.J.
22  Person in publishing
23  1/3 or 3/4
25  First Latin American Olympics host
26  Baby bouncer
27  Makes a connection
28  Wide neckwear
30  Computer model, for short
31  Economizing
34  Agency customer
35  Kept a low profile
38  Google alternative
39  George W's degree
41  In the past
42  Dietary concern
43  Three-time
44  Chanel or Dior
57  Place for pigs
58  WWI French marshal
59  Pre-Easter period
60  Shakespearean monarch
61  Facial feature

Down
1  Plunder
2  Familiar with
3  Ready for action
4  High points
5  Frat letter
6  Craving
7  Examining, with "over"
8  Bornean beast
9  Marina platform
10  Reductions
11  NL West team
12  Scandinavian toast
13  Dramatist's device
14  Yellow cake
15  Swan Lake princess
16  Photos
17  Elevator guy
18  Central points
19  Gift-card word
20  City near Detroit
21  Gift-card word
22  Sound quality
23  Superman's birthplace
24  Hope fibers
25  Work-boot feature
26  Wines and dines
27  Name, in Nantes
28  Consulate
29  Bottomless pit
30  Auditorium paths
31  Neighbor of Marge
32  Mystique
33  Ones or more
34  Cruise-ship rooms
35  Pains in the neck
36  Plowed up
37  Guys and Dolls author
38  Auditorium paths
39  Unruly crowds
40  Sam Snead
41  Contemporary
42  Chanellor of Dior
43  Three-time heavyweight champ
44  Some like it hot
45  Ill-gotten gains
46  Saloons
47  Saloons
48  To the degree
49  Not yet delivered
50  Choose formally
51  Lariat loop
52  Cartoonist Walker
53  Iroquoian group
54  Union that merged with AFTRA
55  Sales force
56  Place for pigs
57  Blessing closing
58  Blessing closing
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Across activity
56  None of your business
57  Nautical direction
58  Italian wine center
59  Choose formally
60  Fashionable
61  They're not certain
62  Hindu wonder-workers
63  Be delayed
64  Brewed, as 44
65  Facial feature
66  Superman's birthplace
67  Novelist Rice
68  Show satisfaction
69  No longer trendy
70  Encourage
71  Central European
72  Competitor
73  Football great
74  Tailor's material
75  Uncool one
76  Across activity
77  Show satisfaction
78  Across activity
79  Oceanographer's place
80  Record player
81  Competitor
82  Hope fibers
83  Name, in Nantes
84  Never delivered
85  Show satisfaction
86  Across activity
87  Show satisfaction
88  Across activity
89  Show satisfaction
90  Across activity
91  Show satisfaction
92  Across activity
93  Show satisfaction
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111  Show satisfaction
112  Across activity
113  Show satisfaction

Down activity
62  Hindu wonder-workers
63  Be delayed
64  Brewed, as 44
65  Facial feature
66  Superman's birthplace
67  Novelist Rice
68  Show satisfaction
69  No longer trendy
70  Encourage
71  Central European
72  Competitor
73  Football great
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79  Oceanographer's place
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111  Show satisfaction
112  Across activity
113  Show satisfaction

For interactive puzzles and games go to chicagotribune.com/games
Silence!

BY CHARLES PRESTON

ACROSS
1 Can
5 Joe
9 Houston pro
14 Cleopatra's maid
15 Did it up brown
16 The Mod --- old TV show
17 Pontificate
18 Ontario native
19 Swell
20 Night heron
22 Sharper
23 First-rate
24 Busybody
26 Piccadilly Circus figure
28 Graylag offspring
32 Sandburg subject
35 Jeb, the Reb
37 Singer Pinza
38 Mistreat
40 Reuben need
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How parents can help teenagers under stress

By Cheryl Stritzel McCarthy

For high schoolers, back-to-school anxiety is normal, but sometimes teens worry excessively. Maybe it's not so surprising.

"Kids aren't coming off the summers we used to have, with one or two books for summer reading," says Beth Dorogusker, an adolescent psychologist in New Jersey and New York City. "Instead they're doing an internship, (on) a sports team, building homes in a foreign country or practicing for standardized testing."

The academic year can bring even more demands. "It's a perfect storm these days," Dorogusker says. Combine high-pressure academics and super-competitive sports with looming college entrance, and a high schooler hefting his backpack can feel like Atlas hoisting the world.

Now add the constant blitz of social media, where your teen sees everyone else happy, successful and out having a great time with friends.

High schoolers face "a powerful cocktail of worry," agrees Ann V. Klotz, head of Laurel School in Shaker Heights, Ohio. Social anxieties about friends and romances compound anxiety about grades and college. Plus, a teen who does something dumb can expect it to be instantly photographed and widely shared.

Some cues that parents should watch for, say experts:

Internalizing via:
- Insomnia, change in eating patterns, excessive headaches or stomachaches.

Externalizing via:
- Activities such as drinking, partying, hours of video games or binge-watching an entire television series.

That last one might surprise you. "With binge-watching, you enter and live in a world that's friendly and relaxed, where no one's stressing over exams," Dorogusker says. "If your child's doing a lot of that, pay attention."

But it's the duration of a problem behavior that merits notice: "If teens can't sleep one night or have a headache because they're worried, that's normal," Dorogusker says.

If you see an ongoing shift in your child's behavior, pay attention. Here are ways parents can help, say Dorogusker and Klotz:

- Manage your own anxiety. The world won't end if your teen doesn't make the varsity team, come up with a plan. If she doesn't make the soccer team, for example, help her find another place in town to play.
- Limit your online checking of grades to once a week or less. A single C does not spell disaster.

- Guide your teen to find out what he or she didn't understand that led to a disappointing test score, or whether extra credit is an option.
- Reassure your teen there are many good colleges, and many ways to make it in this world.
- Help them normalize feelings of anxiety, of feeling happy or sad, instead of comparing their moods with what they see on social media.
- Limit teens' digital life. They need to leave the phone on the table until homework is done. Shut down their computer by midnight.

Don't forget to encourage ample sleep. Amelia Mundell, a high school senior in Bellingham, Wash., says students can forget what it's like to not be tired. "Everyone's got this cloud of stress around them. No one's immune," she says.

Cheryl Stritzel McCarthy is a freelance reporter.
Figuring right time to start collecting Social Security

JANET KIDD STEWART
The Journey

Q: I will be turning 62 next year and would like to begin collecting Social Security benefits. Am I penalized once I turn full retirement age of 66 for the amount I would receive then? Or does it revert to the amount on my Social Security yearly statement?

A: Generally, if you choose to begin receiving Social Security benefits before your full retirement age, yes, you will permanently reduce your monthly benefit. The reductions are designed to make your benefits actuarially equal no matter when you start them if you live to average life expectancy, though this can be complicated by such issues as inflation adjustments and tax rates.

For people born between 1943 and 1954, full retirement age is 66 exactly. If you begin collecting at 62, your primary amount will be reduced by 25 percent. So if your full retirement age benefit is $3,000 per month, it would be permanently reduced to $750 (plus cost of living adjustments) at age 62.

Here’s another “give up” when claiming benefits early: You can earn delayed retirement credits by delaying claiming after full retirement age up until age 70. For those boomers born between 1943 and 1954, like you, that’s a full four years of delayed benefits, increasing at 8 percent per year, for a total boost of 32 percent above the original primary insurance amount of $1,000. That’s a 76 percent increase from the benefit amount if claimed at age 62.

Spousal and survivor benefits are also reduced by an early claim. Of course, if you are in ill health and aren’t trying to protect income for a spouse, or you have no other retirement income sources, delaying benefits probably isn’t an option.

There are free and paid services online that will help you figure out your best claiming strategy. Among them: AARP (www.aarp.org/work/social-security/social-security-benefits-calculator.html), Bedrock Capital Management (www.bedrockcapital.com) and Social Security Solutions (www.socialsecuritysolutions.com).

Q: What happens with a reverse mortgage when you live long enough to use up the money in equity? There is still a mortgage. How pays that? Is that added to the bill I owe or am I once again responsible for paying the mortgage? Is the mortgage still paid up to the value of the house? What if I live long enough that there is no longer any money left to pay back the loan?

A: As long as at least one of the borrowers on a federally insured reverse mortgage continues living in the house, there is no loan repayment required, though housing officials stress that borrowers are obliged to keep paying property taxes and maintaining the home. When the last borrower moves, sells the house or dies, his or her estate is responsible for repaying the loan. This can be delayed up to a year in cases when a borrower goes to a nursing home. There are other special provisions for qualifying nonborrowing spouses. If the home is sold for more than the loan amount, heirs can keep the difference. If it sells for less, the loss is passed along by the lender and absorbed by the federal government.

Q: Thanks for the article on reverse mortgages. This case fits us. My wife was 62 when we took out the reverse mortgage. I had contacted my lender, and they did not know anything about this. Would you know the House bill number so I can refer them to it?

A: It wasn’t congressional legislation, but new federal guidelines that expand options for certain nonborrowing spouses to remain in their homes when a spouse named on the reverse mortgage dies. The name for “reverse mortgage mortgagee letter” for more information.

Keep your journey to or through retirement or ask a question at journey@janetkiddstewart.com.

Keeping tabs on potential benefits from Social Security

CAROLYN BIGDA
Getting Started

With Social Security celebrating its 80th anniversary, now might be a good time to review your estimated benefits, even if you’re skeptical about ever getting those benefits.

A new survey by the Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies found that 76 percent of all workers are concerned that Social Security won’t be around when they retire. Young workers are especially pessimistic. More than 80 percent of 20-, 30- and 40-somethings feel they won’t get benefits in old age.

It’s true that Social Security faces a funding shortfall. According to its latest annual report, Social Security estimates that reserves for the program will be depleted in 2034. Thereafter, payroll taxes will cover only about three-quarters of scheduled benefits through 2083, the latest year through which projections currently are made.

Does that mean you can’t trust the estimates provided on your Social Security statement?

“When it was originally put into place, Social Security was intended to be a safety net for a minimal amount of income in retirement, and it was supposed to be augmented with other things,” said Jim Blankenship, a financial planner in New Berlin, Ill.

“Chances are, there will be something when you’re ready to retire,” he added.

Here are some points to need to accumulate 40 credits. In 2015, you earn one credit for every $1,220 of earnings that are subject to Social Security taxes, up to a maximum of four credits (or $4,880 in earnings).

If you’re young, you may not have earned enough credits to qualify for benefits. And because you likely haven’t reached your peak earning years, your estimated benefits may be artificially low. (To calculate your benefits, Social Security averages the earnings from your top 35 working years.)

Your earnings record. Blankenship says it’s less important for a 20-something worker to worry about the estimated benefits and more important to review the earnings recorded in your statement.

“If you see an error, now is the time to resolve it, rather than 40 years down the line,” he said.

What you should see: All the income earned in a given year that was subject to Social Security taxes. In 2015, earnings up to $118,500 are eligible.

If you see an error, contact Social Security at 800-772-1213.

The bottom line. Even if your retirement benefits are puny now, it’s still a good idea to see how much you would potentially take home each month in old age. It’s not enough to cover your monthly expenses — keeping in mind that even those benefits may not be fully payable if Social Security runs short of funds — think of how you’ll make up the shortfall in retirement.

“This is the incentive,” Blankenship said. “Now is the time to save and make up the difference on your own.”

yourmoney@tribune.com
It is retirement, as well as the rate of consideration, including your age, many variables into the cost of living now. Every little bit of money you will need to retire, consider ways to cut your needs below your means. This step as well. Some calculators can help with making achieving your goals easier. Using these tools will allow you to calculate your retirement income needs. The first step to determining how to save for retirement is to figure out how much money you need for retirement. Figuring out this number can be intimidating, but online calculators can help. These tools, such as those offered by ARF, CNN Money and Bloomberg Business, can take many variables into consideration, including your age, current and potential income level, desired lifestyle at retirement, as well as inflation in the years to come. Singing these tools will allow you to enter gauge how much you need to save for retirement.

You can then take that figure and break it down into what you will need to save year-by-year to take achieving your goals easier (some calculators can help with his step as well).

Save below your means. Once you have a rough figure of how much money you need to retire, consider ways to cut your cost of living now. Every little bit of money you can earn, instead of spending it, can help. Try to live off less than you need, instead of spending every dollar. While the expense of buying secondhand clothing. Any action you take to reduce today's costs of living will free up additional capital to put toward your retirement savings.

Open and fund retirement accounts for each partner. While some retirement plans are only available through an employer, such as a 401(k) or pension, there are many other options available to working and non-working individuals alike. Single individuals should contribute to a retirement plan through their employer, such as a 401(k), and also open and contribute to an IRA on their own if they want to put away savings past the 401(k) contribution limits.

For couples that have only one earner, this can be tricky, as many retirement savings products like IRAs require that the account holder have an earned income. For couples that file jointly, however, the non-earning partner can open a personal, spousal IRA that can be funded with whatever money is available within a household. Talk to a qualified financial adviser about additional options that may be available to you and your spouse.

Delay or stagger Social Security distributions. Many individuals might have once had a full-time income and contributed to Social Security, even if they are currently not earning incomes. If you're in that boat, you might be eligible to receive benefits upon reaching retirement age even if you were not working every year of your adult life. It requires at least 10 years of earning an income to earn the minimum 40 credits required to qualify for Social Security benefits, but the good news is any annual income of $1,220 or more will earn you credits towards Social Security requirements.

Social Security benefits can be claimed as early as age 62, but people who wait to retire at the full retirement age of 66 will avoid a penalty against Social Security earnings, and waiting until age 70 will earn a bonus in Social Security income. Single earners can consult with a financial planner to determine the best time to begin accepting Social Security retirement benefits, since delaying could give them a big advantage.

Insure a stable retirement. When it comes to retirement planning, the idea of stowing away money is often foremost. However, there are also some insurance considerations to keep in mind that can help make sure your retirement happens and that both partners in a household are financially secure.

For instance, income earners can apply for disability insurance. This will provide an income to the household should the sole working adult become injured or incapacitated.

Similarly, life insurance can be purchased for both earning and non-earning adults. Life insurance will provide financial security upon the death of either adult in the household.

Last, long-term care insurance is another consideration for older adults as they near retirement. This insurance can help cover a stay in a nursing home, and will allow you to avoid tapping into your precious retirement savings to pay for special care.
Celebrities reinvent themselves, so did we

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

By Lauran Neergaard
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON — Aiming lower saves more lives when it comes to controlling high blood pressure, says a major new study that could spur doctors to more aggressively treat patients older than 50.

Patients who got their blood pressure well below today's usually recommended level significantly cut their risk of heart disease and death, the National Institutes of Health announced Friday. The benefit was strong enough that NIH stopped the study about a year early.

"This study provides potentially life-saving information," declared Dr. Gary Gibbons, director of NIH's National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

Doctors have long debated how low blood-pressure patients need to go, especially as they get older. Friday's results are preliminary, and researchers stressed they shouldn't alter patient care just yet. But if the full results pan out, they eventually could influence treatment guidelines.

"This study certainly supports that lower is better," said Dr. Mark Creager, president of the American Heart Association, who wasn't involved with the new study. He called the research a possible roadmap to treatment strategies "that will save a significant amount of lives."

About 1 in 3 adults in the U.S. has high blood pressure, raising the risk of heart attacks, stroke, kidney failure and other health problems.

Normal blood pressure is less than a measurement of 120 over 80. High blood pressure is diagnosed once that measurement reaches, or passes, 140 over 90. Only about half of diagnosed patients have their blood pressure under control.

Today's treatment guidelines are mixed but generally recommend getting that top number — called the systolic pressure — down to about 140 in generally healthy adults and to 130 in patients who also have kidney disease or diabetes.

The institute sponsored a nationwide study to test if that's the best goal, or if aiming lower would either help or harm. Starting in 2010, more than 9,300 high blood pressure patients were enrolled in the SPRINT study — the Systolic Blood Pressure Intervention Trial. Half received an average of about two medications with the goal of lowering their systolic pressure below 140. The other half received an average of three medications with the goal of getting below 120.

The more aggressively treated patients saw their risk of death drop by almost 25 percent compared to the less controlled patients, researchers said. And rates of cardiovascular problems dropped by almost 30 percent in the better-controlled group.

Researchers wouldn't give precise numbers, or information about side effects, data that's expected when the full study is published in a scientific journal by year's end.

But preliminary results suggest treatment was "extremely well tolerated," said SPRINT investigator Dr. Jackson Wright of Case Western Reserve University.

One question is whether older patients need to get their blood pressure as low as middle-aged patients do, or if doing so increases the seniors' risk of side effects including falls. Last year, an expert panel sparked debate by recommending that the treatment target for patients older than 60 be a systolic pressure of 150.

The average age of SPRINT participants was 68, and a quarter of them were older than 75. The heart association's Creager said doctors will examine closely how those older patients fared.

Researchers also will continue tracking SPRINT participants to see if kidney disease, brain function and dementia were affected by more aggressive care.

Meanwhile, what's the advice for patients now struggling to control their blood pressure?

"The important public health message is to speak with their health care providers," said NHLBI heart specialist Dr. George Mensah.

Everyone should know their blood pressure, added Creager, director of the Heart and Vascular Center at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. Risks for heart disease begin gradually rising as blood pressure gets above 120, even if people never cross the line into full-blown hypertension.

Good diets, physical activity and keeping a healthy weight help avoid high blood pressure and can help to lower it before medications are required or along with them.

But once high blood pressure is diagnosed, getting treatment is more important than the debate over how low to go, Creager said. That's an individual decision based on the person's overall health, and many people aren't reaching today's recommended levels.

"The worst thing people with high blood pressure can do is ignore it," he said.
$4.2 million modern castle in Oak Brook

ADDRESS: 3015 Lincoln Road, Oak Brook
ASKING PRICE: $4,200,000
Listed: April 13

Majestic detail throughout this castle-like brick and stone mansion covering 12,000 square feet on almost 1 acre. Built in 2009, the two-story home consists of five bedroom suites, seven full and one half baths and a four-car attached garage. The home is soundproof with 18-inch thick walls. Other features include a billiard room, elevator, radiant heated floors, game room, theater, workout room, wine cellar and bar. Outdoor features include a fountain and terrace. Rooftop ready for deck installation.

Agent: Maureen Butler of Brush Hill Realtors, 630-920-0666

At press time this home was still for sale.

chicagotribune.com/homes  Visit us online for exclusive Home of the Day photo galleries, plus views of other featured homes and real estate stories.
Home e-tailers making shopping easier

Return policies are getting generous

By Kavita Daswani
Tribune Newspapers

Buy a pair of shoes online and if they don't fit, stick them in a box and return them. Now try doing that with a dining table.

Home decor e-tailers have had to find inventive ways to reassure customers who might be hesitant to buy large furniture pieces sight unseen.

And the easiest way to do that, they say, is to offer lavish return policies, allowing customers to live with furniture for as long as a year before deciding if they want to keep it.

"If myself am used to touching, feeling and sitting on things before I purchase," said Aamir Baig, founder of home decor site Bryght. "You can furnish your entire home from Bryght, and if you're not happy with any of it we will come and pick it all up."

According to industry research firm Ibis World, online household furniture sales are on the rise in the U.S., valued at $10 billion in 2014 and predicted to rise to $14.2 billion by 2019. E-tailers say that as they offer more liberal return policies, sales are invariably rising.

"Take a hundred nights to sleep on our mattress," said David Wolfe, president of Leesa Sleep, an online purveyor of mattresses. "If you don't like it, we'll send someone to pick it up, no questions asked."

The trend is happening across the board, even with products that are customized, and those easy to soil, such as rugs. Some e-tailers won't charge a credit card until a customer says he is happy with the purchase.

Here's the lowdown on some vendors who make sending it back simple.

Leesa

The deal: Wolfe started Leesa.com with the notion of taking the confusion and awkwardness out of mattress shopping.

"Unless you're going to go in in your pajamas, there's no way to really test out a mattress in a store," Wolfe said. On the site, there is only one type of mattress available, in six sizes, priced from $525 to $990. Wolfe designed the mattress using three layers of foam for bounce, pressure relief and support, and to appeal to almost all body types and shapes. It arrives at your front door in a box. If by the 100th night of use a customer is not happy, the mattress will be picked up for free and donated to a homeless shelter. Wolfe said that the return rate has been minimal.

The fine print: Shoppers in the lower 48 states get a full refund. Those in Hawaii or Alaska will be charged a $100 return fee.

Bryght

The deal: Sofas, chairs, tables and accessories are all covered under a 30-day guarantee from Bryght. A shopper can buy dozens of large items to outfit an entire home and return them all if he or she has a change of heart. But Baig says the rate of returns has been under 5 percent. It helps that each product is photographed in detail and from multiple angles, so customers have a good idea of what they are getting. "We recognize the fact that you are buying sight unseen; it's important to process returns properly. It puts the onus on the brand to deliver a great product," said Baig.

The fine print: The 30-day guarantee is good for furniture and accessories. Bryght has a 30-day guarantee on furniture and accessories.

Rug & Relic

The deal: When Rug & Relic, a store in South Dakota selling one-of-a-kind, handmade Turkish carpets, kilims and home accessories, launched an e-commerce site, it began offering a risk-free at-home trial.

"I don't care how good the photography is, the piece will not be exactly the same as it appears on someone's computer screen," said company founder Tove Hoff Bormes. "Our answer to that was to provide an in-home approval process. People were completely baffled that we would do that."

Although a credit card number is given at the time of purchase, it's not charged until a customer is happy with the piece. "We give them 45 days to decide, although most of the time a decision is made in a matter of days," said Bormes. Rugs range in price from $500 to $10,000.

The fine print: The rugs come with a labeled box for returns. Customers pay the cost of return shipping and any charges for cleaning if a rug is soiled.

Interior Define

The deal: Online shoppers at Interior Define can customize sofas and sectionals with their choice of fabric and color and use the piece for up to a year before returning.

"We wanted to differentiate ourselves by offering a really liberal return policy," said Rob Royer, the company's founder. "A customer can in theory take 365 days with the sofa, and return it for whatever reason."

Royer said that despite the generous system, returns on the customized couches, which start around $1,000, have been very low; Customers are sent large swatches so they have clear expectations of what they will receive and are assigned a "conierge" to shepherd them through the process.

The fine print: Once the furniture arrives, customers have the option to return it within 14 days and not be charged a penny. If it is kept longer, there is a 10 percent restocking fee.

Dot & Bo

The deal: Popular furniture e-tailer Dot & Bo, which has an extensive repertoire of furnishings that includes throws, pillows, chests and love seats, aims to make the return process "easy and seamless," said co-founder Anthony Soohoo. While the website says that returns need to be in their original packaging, the company knows that that's virtually impossible to achieve with large furniture. So if something doesn't work that arrives through the brand's in-home delivery service, the shipping company will come back, pack it all up and send it off.

The fine print: Returns need to be initiated within 30 days. Customers pay the return shipping cost, which is calculated at the time of purchase. Some larger items do have an additional delivery charge that's noted on each product. There are no restocking fees, unless the item is vintage. And some items are marked as final sale.

Kavita Daswani is a freelancer.
Here’s what we think: start a blog

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**LAKE FOREST**

Updated 5-bedroom house with open floor plan set on .29 acres with mature trees, 2 blue stone patios, shed & landscaping. Recent improvements include: refinished hardwood floors, new roof & gutters, attic insulation, new bay window & patio door, fresh paint, french drain & more. First-floor laundry/mud room, basement rec room & storage.

Address: 163 E. Louis Ave.
Price: $574,900
Schools: Lake Forest High School
Taxes: $9,901
Agent: Michele & Art Wilson/Coldwell Banker

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**ARLINGTON HEIGHTS**

Custom-built Calias model features three larger bedrooms upstairs, kitchen/breakfast area addition & a private patio/professionally landscaped backyard overlooking Lake Arlington. Home features 2.5 baths, master bedroom elfa closet system, updated master bath & vanity area with marble shower/floor, granite counters and cherry cabinets.

Address: 1509 E. Crabtree Drive
Price: $459,900
Schools: Wheeling High School
Taxes: $9,100
Agent: The Apostai Group/Coldwell Banker

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**GLENCOE**

Bright home has updated eat-in kitchen with granite counters, stainless steel appliances, updated baths and more. Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Large family room off of the living/dining room and gas fireplace. Backyard with deck. Hardwood flooring throughout (under carpet on second floor). Finished walk out basement. Newer furnace, A/C unit and roof.

Address: 340 Lake St.
Price: $729,000
Schools: New Trier Township High School Winnetka
Taxes: $13,818
Agent: Ryan Newberry Lheureux/Berkshire Hathaway

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**NILES**

Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Brick and cedar cape cod has two bedrooms and a full bath on second level with large closets. First floor has large living room, cat-in-kitchen & two bedrooms. Full basement with dry bar. Many new windows, updated electric panel. Great for rehab or expansion. Close to shopping, restaurants and expressways.

Address: 6930 W. Oakton Court
Price: $250,000
Schools: RE/MAX Properties Northwest
Taxes: $3,469
Agent: Michael Lohens'

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

Thursday, Sept. 17

Duke Robillard with Monster Mike Welch on Guitar: 8 p.m. Thursday, SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, $17-$32, 847-492-8860

Found Launches Live Music Every Thursday: The Josh Rzepka jazz trio performs. 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, 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. Thursday-Sunday, Evanston Art Center, 1717 Central St., Evanston, free, 847-475-3500

All My Relations: A Seneca History: Featuring traditional and modern Seneca artifacts, which span various generations. 11 a.m. Daily, Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston, Free-$5; $10-$12 for talk, 847-475-1030

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

Model Railroad Garden: Landmarks of America: Train and garden enthusiasts, young and old, return year after year for this exhibition which features 18 G-scale trains chugging along 1,600 feet of track past replicas of American landmarks including the Statue of Liberty, 10 a.m. Daily, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free-$6, 847-835-5440

Focusing on Nature Photography Exhibition: Focusing on Nature, the annual student botanical photography exhibition, is a juried show featuring more than 40 works by current students in photography classes at the school, who range in age from their late 20s to 70s. 9 a.m. Thursday-Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440

6 Wicket American Croquet: North Shore Croquet Club offers free coaching sessions and practice games to learn “6 Wicket American Croquet” 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Thursdays, Saturdays and Wednesdays, Glencoe Golf Club, 621 Westernly Road, Glencoe, 847-409-5526

150th Anniversary of the End of the Civil War: Living history in an encampment with living Civil War soldiers who are on site. 9 a.m. Daily, Glenview History Center, 1201 Waukegan Road, Glenview, Suggested donation, 847-724-2235

Friends of the Glenview Library Special Program: Who Will She Be This Time? The Answer Is The Accidental Empress: Barbara Rinella is an outstanding speaker, actress and book reviewer. 9:15 a.m. Thursday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Recovering Resources: Transforming Water: Water is life and existence is dependent on it, but water can also create many environmental issues and challenges. 7 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Free Online Genealogy Resources: Discover free genealogy websites to build your family tree and break down your “brick walls.” 2 p.m. Thursday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Story Walk: The Little Red Hen by Patsy Pinch: Stroll, bounce, hop, or better yet, bike along the path to read this retelling of the classic tale. 9 a.m. Daily, Gallery Park, 2001 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, free, 847-757-7500

Everybody Move: Celeste Cifala Roy has planned an hour of activities and exploration to get your child up moving, singing and dancing. 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Northshore Country Club, 1340 Glenview Road, Glenview, $40, 847-729-7500

Hot Ticket: “Far from the Madding Crowd”: The story takes place in Victorian England, and a headstrong bachelorette attracts three very different suitors. 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Between the Lines: The Good Girl by Mary Kubica: Mia Bennett returns months after she’s kidnapped. The story is told from the viewpoints of her mother, the detective, and the kidnapper. 10 a.m. Thursday, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

The American Legion, Post 134: The American Legion, Post 134, is seeking volunteers to raise funds for Poppy Days to help veterans. Work a few hours in a designated area or solicit donations. 6 a.m. Daily, The American Legion Post 134, 6144 West Dempster Street, Morton Grove, Any amount helps, 847-663-0539

Movies In the Underground: “The Maze Runner”: 4 p.m. Thursday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St., Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Free Webinar: ValueLine: Learn how to access stock rankings, company reports and other investment research with ValueLine, an interactive online resource. 1 p.m. Thursday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

One-of-kind Classic Duesenberg Collections rolls into Northbrook Court: Come see a one-of-kind classic Duesenberg collection featuring three vehicles on display. 11 a.m. Daily, Northbrook Court, 2171 Northbrook Court, Northbrook, free, 847-498-8919

A Tribute to Mae West: Come face to face with a Hollywood legend, as Mary Anne Burkhartel portrays Mae West, a woman decades ahead of her time. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $12 NSSC members; $15 non-members, 847-784-6000

Tony Bennett: Timeless Troubadour: Musical biographer Susan Benjaumin recounts Tony Bennett's life and career for attendees. 1 p.m. Thursday, North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road, Northfield, $10 NSSC members; $13 non-members, 847-784-6000

The Language of Business: This new free class helps attendees improve their reading, writing and math skills as they learn the language of business ownership and management. 6 p.m. Thursdays and Tuesdays, JVS Chicago, 1580 Golf Road, Skokie, 847-663-5387

Funnyman: Chick Sherman was once a rising Vaudeville star. Along with his less than enthusiastic agent, Chick tries to revive his career by starring in an off Broadway production while his daughter searches for answers from her absentee father. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays; 8 p.m. Fridays; 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays; 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie, $15-$65, 847-673-6300

Special Exhibition Three Years, Eight Months, and Twenty Days: The Cambodian Atrocities and the Search for Justice: Learn about the Cambodian genocide and the current trials to bring the perpetrators to justice 40 years later. 10 a.m. Daily, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, free, 847-967-4835

Asian Pop-Up Cinema series: Lost and Love: After losing his two-year-old son, Lei begins a 15-year-long quest in search of his missing child. On his way, he meets Zeng, a young car mechanic who was abducted as a child himself. 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Wilmette Theatre, 1122 Central Ave., Wilmette, $10 with special discounts for students and seniors, 847-251-7424

Wilmette Fiber Arts Group: This group of people is interested in all aspects of fibers arts. 10 a.m. Thursdays, Panera Bread, 1199 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, free, 847-293-6755
Friday, Sept. 18

Des Plaines Farmers’ Market: 3 p.m. Fridays, Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood Street, Des Plaines, free, 847-827-5551

Fall Fest-Des Plaines Family Fun Festival-2015: The 7th annual Fall Fest, features concerts, carnival with rides, games, a kid’s midway and food and beverages. 6 p.m. Friday; 12 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Lake Park Memorial Pavilion, 2200 Lee St, Des Plaines, free, 847-391-5700

Spoon River Anthology: Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the publication of Illinois poet Edgar Lee Masters most noted work in this stage production of “Spoon River Anthology” produced by the Guild Theatre company. 7:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturday and Sunday, Leela Theatre, 1843 Glenview Road, Evanston, $15-$25, 847-663-1234

Gentle Yoga: Yoga instructor Olga Rudiak leads a series of yoga sessions for improved physical strength, relaxation and mental clarity. 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Fridays, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

Jazz/Blues Concert - Dave Specter: The library’s brand new Jazz/Blues Concert debuts with Dave Specter, an internationally-recognized blues and jazz guitarist. 7:30 p.m. Friday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224

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

Annual Evanston Harvest Celebration: The annual Evanston Harvest Celebration will be a “Truck-to-Table” community event. 11 a.m. Saturday, Downtown Evanston Farmers’ Market, 1800 Maple Avenue, Evanston, $50, Eight food tickets included, 847-570-4140

Signature Entertainment Presents: LOL Saturday: Adult Comedy every Saturday night hosted by Comedy legends Tony Shulfield and Mark Simons. 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

Mad Bread Live at The Knot: Mad Bread is a stringband for the 21st century; playing a unique mixture of bluegrass, rock, folk and blues. 9:30 p.m. Saturday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St, Evanston, free, 847-864-1679

First Bank & Trust Twentieth Anniversary Celebration: Celebrate First Bank & Trust’s anniversary by joining in festivities that include: food from Hecky’s Barbecue and Chicago Sweet Ride; face painting; stilts walking and juggling; and balloon art from The Actors Gymnasium; live music; and give-aways. 11 a.m. Saturday, First Bank & Trust, 820 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-733-7400

Fruit and Vegetable Garden Family Drop-In Activities: Discover where food comes from and how plants grow. Pollinate flowers, dissect seeds, see roots growing, compost with worms, create a rainbow for healthy eating and more. 11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, free, 847-835-5440
CALENDAR

Malott Japanese Garden Family Sundays: Take part in engaging, educational and fun activities related to Japanese gardens and other aspects of Japanese culture. 11 a.m. Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glenco, free, 847-835-5440

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

Lincolnwood Public Library Day at the Chicago Botanic Garden: The program includes a library introduction, rare book viewing and gallery talk on Lenhardt Library's current exhibition: Ampelography: I Heard it Through the Grapevine. 1 p.m. Sunday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glenco, free, 847-835-5440

Wright In Glencoe Housewalk: 10 a.m. Sunday, Glencoe Historical Society Museum, 375 Park Avenue, Glencoe, free, 847-385-0040

Early Literacy Fair: Llama Llama Read-A-Rama: Meet Llama Llama and talk, sing, read, write and play at the library's activity stations. 11 a.m. Sunday, Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500


Run for Life SK: In an effort to fundraise on behalf of those with infertility, the Kevin J. Lederer Life Foundation is hosting the inaugural "Run for Life" 5K. 8 a.m. Sunday, Blue Star Memorial Woods, 701 E. Lake Ave, Glenview, free

Chicago Folklore Ensemble: Master musician and storyteller Oba William King takes audiences on a journey around the world with music and stories from Asia, Latin America, Africa, Europe and the Middle East. 2 p.m. Sunday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave, Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220

Run for Rescue and Wag Fest: Run for Rescue is a dog and people-friendly 5K walking and running event. Wright-Way's Wag Fest, new this year, is free to attend. All proceeds from Run for Rescue and fundraisers go directly back to supporting Wright-Way Rescue's mission. 10 a.m. Sunday, Linne Woods, Ferris Avenue, Morton Grove, free, 847-728-5434

Getting Excited about Science: To celebrate the grand opening of the Wonder Ground, Scientist Steve Beliveau returns with a surprise-filled program especially geared toward elementary school students. 2 p.m. Sunday, Niles Public Library, 6960 W. Oakton St, Niles, free, 847-663-1234

Girls on the Run Northbrook District 27 and Westmoor - Fall 2015 Teams: Registration is now open at the website for the fall season of Girls on the Run for third through fifth grade girls in Northbrook. 5 p.m. Sunday, 4 p.m. Sept. 24, Shabonee School, 1000 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, $175 for the season

JCC Chicago Cuba: Jewish Mission Informational Meetings: Free informational meetings on the JCC Chicago's Jewish Mission to Cuba. 3 p.m. Sunday, Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, free, 224-406-9257

JCC Chicago Israel Trip Informational Meetings: Come learn more about our trips at an informational meeting. 4 p.m. Sunday, Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, free, 847-763-3627

Bake Sale at Temple Beth Israel in Skokie: The Sisterhood of Temple Beth Israel presents their annual "Bake Sale." 9 a.m. Sunday, Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St, Skokie, free, 847-675-0951

Skokie Folklore Festival: 7:30 a.m. Sunday, Skokie Village Hall, 5127 Oakton St, Skokie, free, 847-673-0500

Pioneer Afternoon in Schmidt Burnham Log House: Step back in time for a few hours in the Schmidt-Burnham Log House, Crow Island Woods. 1 p.m. Sunday, Schmidt-Burnham Log House, 1140 Willow Road, Wilmetta, $5 adults, $3 children (6-17), 847-446-0001

Bake Sale at Temple Beth Israel in Skokie: The Sisterhood of Temple Beth Israel presents their annual "Bake Sale." 9 a.m. Sunday, Temple Beth Israel, 3601 W. Dempster St, Skokie, free, 847-675-0951

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Tuesday, Sept. 22

Kol Nidre/El Yom Kippur: Tickets are required for Temple Beth Israel Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre. 8:15 p.m. Tuesday, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, call for ticket price, 847-675-0951

Rotary Club of Evanston Lighthouse: 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, Hilton Garden Inn Chicago North Shore/Evanston, 1818 Maple Ave., Evanston, free

Irish music session: 7 p.m. Tuesday, The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston, free, 847-664-1679

Tuesday Morning Music: Music varies from string quartets to Native American flutes and are focused towards an older crowd. 10 a.m. Tuesday, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glenco, free, 847-835-5440

Smile and Rhyme Storytime (ages 2 and up with adult): 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Heiner's Grocery Store, 1020 Waukegan Road, Glenview, free, 847-729-7500

Open Hockey Rat Time: 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, Evanston Ice Center, 1851 Landwehr Road, Glenview, $10, 847-724-2800

Turn to Calendar, Next Page
Converting Your VHS Home Movies:
Have old home movies on VHS that you want to convert to a DVD or digital format? 10 a.m. Tuesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

Wednesday, Sept. 23

Yom Kippur Service: Tickets are required for Temple Beth Israel’s Yom Kippur Services. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, call for ticket price, 847-675-0951.

Friends of the Lincolnwood Public Library: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 West Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, free.

Teen Library Council (or TLC): Join other teens as the group discusses and plans library programs, clubs, services and more. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, free, 847-965-4220.

Camera Club: 10 a.m. Tuesday, Park Ridge Senior Center, 100 S. Western Ave., Park Ridge, free, 847-692-3597.

Courageous Conversations: When Stakes are High - A Conversation about Teen Choices and the Law: Loyola Academy’s Courageous Conversations book and speaker series features renowned authors and experts on the issues most influencing adolescents and their families today. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Loyola Academy, 1100 Laramie Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-256-1100.

College Essay Writing Workshop: Bring in a hard copy of your essay for feedback and personalized assistance. 6 p.m. Wednesday, Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, free, 847-272-6224.

Free High Holidays for Children at Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Cong.: High Holiday services are free for children from kindergarten through tenth grade at Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation. Advance registration required. Call the synagogue. 10 a.m. Wednesday, Ezra Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 4500 Dempster St., Skokie, free, 847-675-4141.

High Holiday Services/Tickets: High Holiday tickets are available for other services. 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Temple Judea Mizpah, 8610 Niles Center Road, Skokie, free, 847-676-1566.

Senior High Youth Group: For youth grades 9 to 12 to enjoy fun and friendship while engaging in meaningful discussions and service learning. 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, First Congregational Church of Wilmette, 1125 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, free, 847-251-6660.

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

“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. - Michael Phillips

“Hitman: Agent 47” ★★½
R, 1:36, action
If you see one movie about governmentally modified assassins this weekend, don't make it "Hitman: Agent 47." The story seems overly complicated but is quite simple: Someone's trying to make more of the genetically enhanced "agents," and in order to succeed, they need to find the originator of the project, Litvenko (Ciaran Hinds), who has dropped off the face of the earth. In pursuit are Agent 47 (Rupert Friend), a contract killer so focused on his job he's practically a robot, and John Smith (a woefully miscast Zachary Quinto). 47 is trying to stop Syndicate from making more agents. Caught in the middle is Litvenko's daughter, Katia (Hannah Ware), who is also searching for her father. - Katie Walsh

“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 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.

“Sinister 2” ★★½
R, 1:37, horror
Horror sequel "Sinister 2" is a very strange movie. Of course, it's a horror film, so strange, ghostly, and sinister events are expected. Yet this is a horror film that doesn't quite know what it is. You can't tell if the filmmakers (director Ciaran Foy and screenwriters Scott Derrickson and C. Robert Cargill) are deliberately going for a bit of a goofy, throwback feel, but that's what comes across in this spooky tale. It's almost like an '80s movie you'd find on cable, and that might appeal to some horror audiences. - K.W.

“Straight Outta Compton” ★★½
R, 2:26, biopic
"Straight Outta Compton" is a musically propulsive mixed blessing of a biopic, made the way these things often get made: with the real-life protagonists breathing down the movie's neck to make sure nothing too harsh or unflattering gets in the way of the telling. As relayed by director F. Gary Gray, the rise of South Central Los Angeles hip-hop revolutionaries N.W.A. begins in Compton, Calif., in 1986 and ends less than a decade later, with Eric "Eazy-E" Wright's AIDS-related death in 1995. The closer the film sticks to the recording booth the more vivid its impact. A tougher-minded biopic, I think, would've had the nerve to acknowledge some of the group's seamier material and its role in the group's international success. - M.P.
Brown, Jane Synek
Jane Synek Brown, age 82, died on September 7, 2015 in Evanston, Illinois. Beloved wife of H. Sumner Brown (deceased), sister of Henry Synek (deceased) and Joe Synek. Loving Mother of Jennifer (Curt) Frisinger and Malcolm Brown (Holly Stevens) and her grandchildren Ash, Riley and Fritz. Graduate of the University of Illinois (B.S.) and the University of Chicago (M.A.) Retired from Evanston Public Library. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to a charity of your choice.
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries
Here’s a tip: start a blog

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INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
Referto File Number 1105229
60602. Tel. No. (312) 476-5500.
Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause on March 24, 2014, intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, at the hour of 11 a.m., in their office at 120 West Madison Street, Suite 600, Chicago, Illinois, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property:

COMMONLY KNOWN AS 4534 MAIN STREET, SUITE 718A, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A UNIT OF A CONDOMINIUM PROPERY, PIN 10-22-105-036-0000, COMMONLY KNOWN AS 4534 MAIN STREET, SUITE 718A, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, SUBJECT TO GENERAL REAL ESTATE TAXES, ASSESSEMENTS REQUIRED BY SECTION 18.5 OF THE CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT, 765 ILCS 605/1-51g-11. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (THE PURCHASER OF THE UNIT AT THE FORECLOSURE SALE OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT. 765 ILCS 605/1-51g-11.

Sale terms: 25% down on highest bid by certified funds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. The mortgagee acquiring the property shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/1-51g-11, and if this property is a condominium unit which is a part of a common interest community, the purchase of the unit as an investment other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act. 765 ILCS 605/1-51g-11. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (THE PURCHASER OF THE UNIT AT THE FORECLOSURE SALE OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT, 765 ILCS 605/1-51g-11, and if this property is a condominium unit which is a part of a common interest community, the purchase of the unit as an investment other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act. 765 ILCS 605/1-51g-11.

A. FYOCK at Plaintiff's Attorney - service.atty-pierce.com Between the hours of 3 and 5 p.m., by certified funds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. The mortgagee acquiring the property shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/1-51g-11. The mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchase of the unit as an investment other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/1-51g-11.

The court has ordered the Sheriff of the Cook County Sheriff's Office to vacate the premises in accordance with the provisions of the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/1-51g-11.

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

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.
Plaintiff,

JULIETTE GARCES, THE CLOCK TOWER POINTE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION
Defendants

10 CH 54687
4811 N OLCOTT AVE UNIT 301
Harwood Heights, IL 60706

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure
and Sale entered in the above cause on July 22, 2015, an agent for The Judicial Sales
Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on October 23, 2015, at The Judicial Sales Corporation,
One South Wacker Drive - 24th Floor, CHICAGO, IL, 60606, sell at public auction to the
highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

PARCEL 1: UNIT 4811-301 IN THE CLOCK TOWER POINTE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
CONDOMINIUM AS DELINEATED ON A SURVEY OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED
PROPERTY: THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PARCELS (AS
MEASURED ON THE EAST AND WEST LINES THEREOF): PARCEL A: LOTS 1, 2,
3, 4, 5, 6 AND 7 IN BLOCK 9 AND LOTS 4, 5, AND 6 TOGETHER WITH THE SOUTH
1/2 OF THE VACATED 16 FOOT ALLEY LYING NORTH OF AND ADJOINING SAD
LOTS 4, 5, AND 6 IN BLOCK 10; AND ALL OF VACATED GUNNISON STREET LYING
BETWEEN AFORESAID BLOCKS 9 AND 10 IN OLIVER SALINGER AND COMPANY'S
LAWRENCE AVENUE MANOR, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF LOT 3 IN CIRCUIT COURT
PARTITION OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/4 AND PART OF THE WEST
1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 AND THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST
1/4 OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 40 NORTH, RANGE 12, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS. PARCEL B: THAT PART OF
THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 40 NORTH,
RANGE 12, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, LYING EAST OF THE
LINE OF OLIVER SALINGER AND COMPANY'S LAWRENCE AVENUE MANOR,
BEING A SUBDIVISION OF LOT 3 IN CIRCUIT COURT PARTITION OF THE EAST 1/2
OF THE SOUTH 1/4 AND PART OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/4
AND THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF AFORESAID SECTION 12,
RECORDED APRIL 28, 1925 AS DOCUMENT 8886267, LYING WEST OF THE WEST
LINE OF THE SOUTH 18.61 ACRES OF THE EAST 31.86 ACRES OF THE WEST 1/2
OF THE SOUTH 1/4 OF AFORESAID SECTION 12, AND PART OF THE CENTERLINE OF ALLEY, EXTENDED EAST, IN BLOCK 10 IN OLIVER SALINGER
AND COMPANY'S LAWRENCE AVENUE MANOR AFORESAID, EXCEPTING THAT
PART THEREOF FALLING IN LAWRENCE AVENUE, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
PARCEL C: THAT PART OF THE SOUTH 18.61 ACRES OF THE EAST 31.86 ACRES
OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/4 OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 40 NORTH,
RANGE 12, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, LYING SOUTH OF THE
CENTERLINE OF ALLEY, EXTENDED EAST, IN BLOCK 10 IN OLIVER SALINGER
AND COMPANY'S LAWRENCE AVENUE MANOR AFORESAID, EXCEPTING THAT
PART THEREOF FALLING IN LAWRENCE AVENUE, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

The real estate is improved with a single unit dwelling.

The judgment amount was $380,106.70.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale
payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The
balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality
Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of $1 for each
$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed $300, in
certified funds or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid
by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the
sale or by any mortgagor, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential
real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. The
subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special
taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation
as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in AS IS condition.
The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of
Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the
sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation
as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the
 courthouse file to verify all information.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT
TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER
OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo Identification issued by a government agency (driver's license,
passport, etc.) In order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in
Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where
The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: KOZENY & McCUBBIN ILLINOIS, LLC,
105 WEST ADAMS STREET, SUITE 1850, Chicago, IL 60603, (312) 605-3500 Please
refer to file number IL-001948.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status
report of pending sales.

KOZENY & McCUBBIN ILLINOIS, LLC
105 WEST ADAMS STREET, SUITE 1850
Chicago, IL 60603
(312) 605-3500
Attorney File No. IL-001948
Attorney Code. 56284
Chicago, IL 60603
TJSC#: 35-12728

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that
Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and
any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Commonly known as 4811 N OLCOTT AVE UNIT 301, Harwood Heights, IL 60706
**LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Stevenson School Corporation, Thursday, October 22, 2015, 6:30 PM, 11612 57th Street, Park Ridge, IL 60069, for the following reasons:

**SPECIAL USE PERMIT**

1. Special Use Permit Approval:
   - Pursuant to the Stevenson School Corporation, special use permit approval is required for a 2-lane drive-through facility on a 12-lane drive-over facility. The permit is subject to the following conditions:
     - The facility must remain in compliance with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements.
     - The permit is subject to the terms and conditions of a special use permit, including but not limited to the following:
       - The permit will be issued for a period of five years.
       - The permit will be renewable at the discretion of the Stevenson School Corporation.
       - The permit is subject to annual inspections by the Stevenson School Corporation.

For information, contact Plaintiff’s attorney ASHEN FAULKNER, 217 N. JEFFERSON ST., STE. 601, Chicago, IL 60611, (312) 655-0800.

**LEGAL NOTICES OF PUBLIC HEARING**

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For information, contact Plaintiff’s attorney ASHEN FAULKNER, 217 N. JEFFERSON ST., STE. 601, Chicago, IL 60611, (312) 655-0800.
Notice of Public Hearing
Village of Skokie, Cook County, Illinois
First Amendment to Redevelopment Plan and Project for the
Downtown Science and Technology TIF District

Notice is hereby given that on October 7, 2015, at 8:00 p.m.
the Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, Illinois, a
public hearing will be held to consider the approval of the First Amendment to the
Redevelopment Plan and Project for the Downtown Science and Technology
TIF District (the "Redevelopment Plan and Project"). The amended Redevelopment
Plan and Project Area consists of the property legally described in the Exhibit A
attached hereeto and made a part hereof.

The original Redevelopment Project Area consists of
boundaries defined by Floral Avenue to the west, Oakton Street to
the north of Oakton Street on the north, Floral Avenue and Lincoln Avenue
the territory legally described in the Exhibit "K" attached hereto and made
at the Village Hall, Council Chambers, 5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, IL, a
eligible project Costs may include, but are not
limited
Project Area by utilizing tax increment financing to fund various eligible
districts having taxable property within the amended Redevelopment
amended Redevelopment Plan and Project, the Village proposes to
Project Area.

There will be considered at the public hearing, a First
Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and Project for the Redevelopment
Project Area. The First Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and Project
were placed on file on or before August 7, 2015 and are available
written comments to the Village, to the attention of the Village Clerk, 5127
Oakton Street, Skokie, IL 60077.

There will be considered at the hearing approval of the
amended Redevelopment Plan and Project and the project and Tax Increment Allocation
financing therefore. Pursuant to the
amended Redevelopment Plan and Project, the Village proposes to
allocate scarce area conditions in the amended Redevelopment
Project Area and to enhance the tax base of the Village and the taxing
districts having taxable property within the amended Redevelopment
Project Area by utilizing tax increment financing to fund various eligible
project costs to stimulate private investment within the RPA. These
eligible project costs may include, but are not limited to, surveys, professional fees, property assembly costs, construction
of public improvements and facilities, financing, administrative, and other
costs, as authorized by the
amended Redevelopment Act, as amended. The amended Redevelopment
Plan objectives include protecting and promoting the health, safety, morals
and welfare of the public by establishing public/private partnerships,
stimulating growth and development in the Village by working within
the guidelines of the strategies developed by the Village, encouraging private
investment while conforming with the Village's Comprehensive Plan,
restoring and enhancing the Village's tax base, enhancing the value of
the amended Redevelopment Project Area, improving the environmental
quality of the amended Redevelopment Project Area, and retaining and
attracting employment opportunities within the amended Redevelopment
Project Area. The amended Redevelopment Plan proposes to provide assistance by paying or reimbursing
costs related to the acquisition, construction and installation of public facilities and
improvements, rehabilitation of buildings and site improvements, job training and other
eligible redevelopment project costs, the execution of one or more
redevelopment agreements, and the payment of financing, administrative, and other
relief costs.

Prior to the date of the public hearing, each taxing district
having property in the amended Redevelopment Project Area and the Illinois
Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity may submit
written comments to the Village, to the attention of the Village Clerk, 5127
Oakton Street, Skokie, IL 60077.

There is hereby convened a Joint Review Board to consider
the proposals for the First Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and Project.
The Joint Review Board shall consist of a representative
selected by each community college district; local elementary school
district and high school district or each local community unit school district; park
commission; the Township Board; the fire protection district; and any special
districts that has authority to levy taxes on the property within the amended
Redevelopment Project Area, a representative selected by the Village and a
public member. The first meeting of said Joint Review Board shall be
held at 3:00 p.m. on the 2nd day of September, 2015, at the Village Hall,
5127 Oakton Street, Skokie, IL 60077.

At the public hearing, all interested persons or affected
taxing districts may appear before the Village Board and be heard orally with respect to any issues regarding the approval of the First
Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and Project. The hearing may
be adjourned by the Mayor or Board of Trustees of the Village without
prior notice. A person appearing at the hearing will be allowed no more
than 15 minutes to present the hearing the time and place of the subsequent hearing.

Pramod Shah
Village Clerk
Village of Skokie, Illinois

Exhibit A

RANGE 22, AND 23 IN TOWNSHIP 22 NORT, RANG 23, EAST 1 OF THE PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, DESCRIBED
AS FOLLOWS:
THE SOUTH LINE OF LOT 16 IN SAID TOWNSHIP 22, RANG 22, EAST 1 OF THE PRINCIPAL Meridian, DESCRIBED
AS FOLLOWS:
THE NORTH WESTERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT 16 AND ITS EXTENSION TO A POINT ON THE NORTH WESTERLY
LINE OF SAID MAIN STREET.

THENCE WEST ALONG SAID NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID MAIN STREET TO A POINT ON THE NORTH
WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LINCOLN AVENUE.

THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID MAIN STREET TO A POINT ON THE
NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID OAKTON AVENUE.

THENCE WEST Along THE NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID OAKTON AVENUE TO A POINT ON THE
NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID CITY STREET.

THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG THE NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID CITY STREET TO A POINT ON
THE NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LINCOLN AVENUE.

THENCE WEST Along THE NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LINCOLN AVENUE TO A POINT ON THE
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THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG THE NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID CITY STREET TO A POINT ON THE
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THE NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID OAKTON AVENUE.

THENCE WEST Along THE NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID OAKTON AVENUE TO A POINT ON THE
NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID CITY STREET.

THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG THE NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID CITY STREET TO A POINT ON THE
NORTH WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LINCOLN AVENUE.
SEPTMBER 18, 1924 AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 9659561;
THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY TO SAID NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 3;
THENCE WEST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 3 TO THE
SOUTHEAST CORNER THEREOF;
THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 3 TO THE
SOUTHEAST CORNER THEREOF;
THENCE EAST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT 3 TO THE
SOUTHEAST CORNER THEREOF;
THENCE NORTHEASTERLY TO A POINT ON SAID EASTERY
RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF LINCOLN AVENUE, SAID POINT BEING
PERPENDICULAR AND ADJACENT TO SAID SOUTHEAST CORNER
OF LOT 3;
THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG SAID EASTERY RIGHT-OF-WAY
LINE OF LINCOLN AVENUE TO A POINT BEING PERPENDICULAR
AND ADJACENT TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 2 IN THE
RESUBDIVISION OF LOT 31 IN THE SUBDIVISION OF THE SOUTH
16 ACRES, RECORDED JULY 9, 1922 AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 725721;
THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY TO SAID NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT
2; THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT
2 TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER THEREOF;
THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 2 TO THE
SOUTHEAST CORNER THEREOF;
THENCE EAST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT 2 TO THE
NORTHWEST CORNER THEREOF;
THENCE WEST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 2 TO THE
SOUTHWEST CORNER THEREOF;
THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF
LINCOLN AVENUE TO A POINT ON SAID CENTER LINE;
THENCE EAST ALONG SAID CENTER LINE TO A POINT 158 FEET
WEST OF A POINT OF INTERSECTION WITH THE EAST LINE OF LOT
55 IN SAID KRENN AND DATO'S MAIN STREET "L" SUBDIVISION AND
SAID CENTER LINE OF WASHINGTON STREET AS MEASURED ON
SAID CENTER LINE;
THENCE NORTHERLY 10 FEET ALONG A LINE PERPENDICULAR TO
SAID CENTER LINE;
THENCE EASTERLY 252 FEET ALONG A LINE 10 FEET NORTH OF AND
PARALLEL TO SAID CENTER LINE;
THENCE SOUTHERLY 10 FEET ALONG A LINE PERPENDICULAR TO
SAID SOUTH LINE TO A POINT ON SAID CENTER LINE;
THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY TO A POINT OF INTERSECTION WITH THE
SOUTHWESTERLY EXTENSION OF THE CENTER LINE OF THE NOW
VACATED (PER SAID DOCUMENT NO. 23438300) PUBLIC ALLEY, LYING WESTERLY OF AND ADJOINING
LOT 15 IN BAUMANN'S SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION IN SAID
SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 21, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT
RECORDED MARCH 10, 1924 AS TORRENS DOCUMENT NO. 209362,
THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG SOUTHWESTERLY EXTENSION TO A POINT ON A LINE 15 FEET SOUTH OF AND
PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT 15;
THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT-
OF-WAY LINE OF NILES CENTER ROAD,
THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG NILES CENTER ROAD TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, ALL IN COOK COUNTY,
ILLINOIS.

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September 28 - October 2, 2015
Drury Lane Theatre and Conference Center
100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace

We have 6 convenient sessions daily:
9:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

*Source: Scarborough Chicago, 2015, R1

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Tribune Publishing presents TribuneWorks
Game ON!

Can't-miss features that make tailgating a win

BY JOE BRUZEK | Cars.com

As with many sports, tailgating is about endurance; it's often an all-day affair that starts at the crack of dawn with barbecue preparations and goes all the way through the game (or race) with a post-victory celebration and, less fun, trash runs and cleanup duty. These top 10 features for tailgating will help keep your pre-, during- and postgame party hopping.

**Locking RamBox.** How do built-in bins with enough space for more than 200 cans sound? Tasty, I know. RamBox, available on Ram light- and heavy-duty pickup trucks, saddles two massive bins on each side of the truck bed, with up to 66 cubic feet of cargo space in the 6-foot-4-inch bed and 73 cubic feet of soda space in the 5-foot-7-inch bed. The RamBox is lockable with the remote key fob to keep poachers from stealing your goods while you watch the main event.

**Multiple USB ports.** Tailgating often means a long day of constant battery drain while researching lineup changes, injuries and green flag start times. Thankfully, you and all of your friends can muck off up to five USB inputs for charging devices in a truck like the Toyota Tacoma. Want to get creative? Look into a USB-powered mug warmer for those frigid, late-season football games.

**Satellite radio.** SiriusXM satellite radio broadcasts a huge number of games and races to keep you tuned into overlapping events. Stuck tailgating at a football game while NASCAR runs on, or vice versa? Tune into the broadcast on satellite radio and pipe the race or game through the car's stereo or a mobile device via the SiriusXM mobile app.

**Household power outlet.** You'll see no shortage of flat-screen TVs walking through a crowded tailgating parking lot. Having the appropriate power outlet inside your tailgating vehicle makes hooking up a TV, blender or stereo a breeze. Be sure to check the power ratings of the outlet, as some don't have enough juice to power a larger TV. In that case, pick a truck like the Toyota Tacoma with optional 115-volt, 400-watt outlet to handle an assortment of powerful tailgating electrical devices.

**Rear entertainment system.** Yank "Frozen" from your car's DVD player and instead plug your PlayStation/Xbox into the rear entertainment system for some pregame "Madden 16" or a classic game such as "ESPN NFL 2K5." Modern rear entertainment systems, like the ones found in many minivans, can include a high-quality Blu-ray screen and HDMI connector to stream various sporting apps or video feeds from a tablet or mobile device.

**Honda Odyssey In-car vacuum.** Driving to the football field or track can be like piloting a rolling kitchen pantry. The chances of spilling a 32-ounce giant plastic bin of cheese balls are high, plus many racetracks' parking lots are in grass- or mud-covered fields, so something like the Honda Odyssey's built-in vacuum becomes an easy win for cleaning up after the last embers go out in the grill.

**Yes Essentials stain- and odor-resistant upholstery.** Spills are unavoidable, and the risk increases with the amount of "refreshments" brought to the tailgate. See where I'm going? No one wants to go there, but designated drivers with Yes Essentials fabric in certain Kia, Hyundai and Fiat Chrysler vehicles won't have to worry as much about the unspeakable since the cloth upholstery is stain and — this is key — odor resistant.

**Rear-facing tailgate seat.** With the party happening at the rear of the vehicle, rear-facing tailgate seats like those in the Dodge Grand Caravan, Chrysler Town & Country and Ford Flex provide a great view of the action off the field. These third rows pivot backward and are prime real estate.

**In-car wireless Internet.** Though earlier systems proved weak and more of a gimmick, in-car wireless systems are heading in the right direction with 4G LTE speeds being tapped and transmitted into in-car hot spots. Roof-mounted antennas can perhaps squeak out a little more signal strength to give you a boost over the hordes of others trying to check their fantasy lineup at the same time. Audi and GM offer the feature across all varieties of their cars, trucks and SUVs.

**Anything with a liftgate.** This seems like a no-brainer, but it's worth a mention. Sure, tailgating refers to gathering around the fold-down tailgate of a truck or SUV, but anything with a liftgate might be the way to go, as the liftgate rises above the rear of the vehicle to shade tailgaters — liftgaters? — from sun and foul weather.
The redesigned 2016 Honda Pilot combines the attributes of a crossover and minivan.

**Pilot steers to crossover path**

*By Casey Williams*  
*Tribune Newspapers*

Though the last two generations of the Honda Pilot looked as if they could bust boulders with upright boxy designs, they were essentially Accord-based crossovers best suited for pavement, not trails. But that's all in the past, as the 2016 Pilot quite with the SUV pretense and flaunts its crossover cred as a sleek 3-row family hauler.

The redesigned Pilot was a hit in the day care parking lot. Several moms declared it looked more like an Acura. This should please Honda.

A wide chrome grille, sculpted hood and sharply cut wraparound taillamps add upscale precision to a more streamlined body, while chiseled body sculpting and 20-inch alloy wheels help lighten the Pilot's substantial shadow.

There's no illusion about the interior, as it's more minivan than SUV. The Pilot's mission is to take up to seven passengers from coast to coast or anywhere in between. High seats greet a wide, two-tone dashboard dominated by a glassy touch screen, arching swaths of piano-black trim and an instrument cluster that puts a digital speedometer high and center. A deep console sports large cup holders, USB inputs, 115-volt power port and a sliding rubberized cover that keeps phones, keys and wallets from sliding about. The third-row seats can fit two adults comfortably, unlike most three-row rivals.

It's a light show inside too. Pressing the starter button turns it from white to red. Drive ecologically, and green halos encircle the instruments. The Pilot's start/stop technology helps keep fuel economy in the top five for nonhybrid crossovers of this size, with 19 mpg city, 26 highway.

Our Pilot's Elite package, swathed in leather, came with heated/ventilated front seats, heated middle-row captain's chairs and a heated steering wheel. Tri-zone automatic climate control kept everybody comfy. A panoramic roof panel kept the rear from feeling like a cave; rain-sensing wipers added convenience. Fold all of the rear seats flat and you have a cavern for totting bicycles, camping gear or your big Ikea haul.

Keeping the Pilot moving is a 3.5-liter V-6 engine mated to a nine-speed automatic transmission and torque-shifting all-wheel drive. All in, the powertrain delivers 280 horsepower. A vehicle this size really needs over 300 horsepower to feel athletic, and the transmission hunts like a beagle after a rabbit, but there's enough oomph to slide onto freeways without drama.

In addition its body structure that's designed to absorb impact without harming human cargo, the Pilot Elite is loaded with Blind spot monitor, rear cross path detection and front/rear parking sensor systems. Because of safety equipment and demonstrated crash performance, the notoriously tough Insurance Institute for Highway Safety awarded the Pilot its coveted Top Safety Pick+ rating.

With the Pilot, Honda made an all-out effort to surpass competitors and attract customers who prefer a legitimate crossover to a pretend SUV.

Casey Williams is a freelance writer.
Age of upheaval

Whether it was Bobby Jones or Ben Hogan, Arnie and Jack or Phil and Tiger, golf has always had stars. And if the past 15 months have proven anything, it's that Rory McIlroy and Jordan Spieth are ready to take their place at the top.

BY JOHN P. BORNEAN | Pioneer Press

Jordan Spieth needed about 10 months to change the Rory McIlroy Era. When McIlroy tapped in to win the PGA Championship in darkness at Valhalla Golf Club in August of 2014, he was on top of the game. The superstar from Northern Ireland had claimed his fourth career major and second in a row after winning the British Open at Royal Liverpool a month earlier. He joined Tiger Woods, Jack Nicklaus and Bobby Jones as the only players in the last century to win four majors before turning 26, delivering on the potential he'd shown when, as an 18-year-old amateur, he was tied for third after the first round of the 2007 British Open.

But along came the 21-year-old Spieth, winning the Masters in early April for his first major. He followed that up by winning the U.S. Open at Chambers Bay in June. Then McIlroy injured his ankle while playing soccer with friends and gave up a chance to defend his British Open title. Spieth missed a playoff by one shot, recording a
top-five finish while narrowly missing a chance to extend his quest for a Grand Slam.

Just like that, a new era began.

"We live in such a world that everything’s so reactionary, and everything happens so quickly," McIlroy said before the PGA Championship at Whistling Straits in August. "A year ago, after I won this tournament, it was the Rory Era. And then Jordan wins the Masters, and it's the Jordan Era. And now, last about 6 months these days instead of 20 years."

So now — with apologies to Jason Day, the recent winner of the 2015 PGA Championship — it's the Rory and Jordan Era. Do you like McIlroy, now 22, the up-and-comer to have an uncanny ability to make critical putts? Or do you favor McIlroy, the veteran at 26, with his athleticism and remarkable power?

With the BMW Championship — the third leg of the four-event FedEx Cup playoffs — set to start at Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest on Sept. 17, a comparison of golf’s two new leaders is in order. Because like it or not, McIlroy and Spieth are getting the golf world ready for the eventual departure of stars like Woods and Phil Mickelson.

"Woods and Mickelson are like Arnie [Palmer] and Jack [Nicklaus]," 1966 U.S. Ryder Cup captain Davis Love III said at the PGA Championship. "Eventually, the guys are going to chase them out of the game, like we did to Arnie and Jack. You get older, and you have to move on."

On the tee

 Spieth didn't miss a beat when asked before the PGA Championship if he was envious of any specific part of McIlroy's game.

"Sure, I wish I could hit it as far as he does," Spieth said. "When he's driving the ball well, just like Dustin [Johnson], just like Bubba Watson, when they're hitting the ball straight with as far as they do, they're playing a different golf course."

The 5-foot-10, 160-pound McIlroy averages 306.4 yards off the tee in 2015, much better than the 292.5-yard mark posted by the 6-foot-1, 185-pound Spieth. McIlroy also hits 68.07 percent of his fairways on the PGA Tour, a number that bests Spieth's 64.04 percent.

McIlroy hasn't hit more than 60 percent of his fairways on the PGA Tour since 2011. He averaged 310.5 yards off the tee in 2014, but only hit 59.93 percent of fairways.

"From a driving standpoint, I felt like I drove the ball great last year, just as I have this year," McIlroy said. "The fractions and the percentages of improvement at this level of the game are so small, so you're always trying to just inch your way up and inch your way up and always trying to look at some ways to improve."

McIlroy's power is enough to convince many that his game is higher than that of his peers.

"McIlroy just has that amazing power and aggressive nature," 1996 British Open champion Tom Lehman said back in May. "He's a lot like Arnold [Palmer] in the way he plays. He just goes for it."

"McIlroy, to me, is clearly the best of the best," Spieth said.

Advantage: McIlroy

Approaching the green

 How does a player like Spieth combat McIlroy's prodigious length?

"There's not much I can do about it right now except try to hit my approaches even closer and make a few more putts," Spieth said.

Spieth is hitting 68.06 percent of greens in regulation in 2015, a number that beats McIlroy's 63.04 percent.

"I think what sets [Spieth] apart, at least in my opinion, is the intangibles," Zach Johnson said. "If I knew what they were, I'd try to implement them, but it's like an innate ability to just get it done."

We've seen it in the majors, he comes back with a round or two that you're just like, man, you think he's out of it, and all of a sudden he surfaces again. So he has an ability to just get the ball in the hole."

Advantage: Spieth

Putting

 There may be no better stat to indicate why Spieth has broken out in 2015 than his make percentage from 20-25 feet. Spieth is rolling in 26.56 percent of his putts from that range this year, the best mark on the PGA Tour.

"He's making more than one out of four," said Zach Johnson, who won the 2015 British Open. "That's a joke."

Spieth is also best on the PGA Tour in putting average (1.7), one-putt percentage (43.99 percent), and putts per round (27.88). McIlroy trails by a significant margin in all three categories.

Advantage: Spieth

Intangibles

 Spieth is known for using his putts and getting the credit, I guess, but at the same time I believe that this is — we're a brand, we're a company ... we're competing together all for the same goal.

Both Spieth and McIlroy are prone to displays of disgust on the course — Spieth tends to yell at himself after poor shots ('Jordan!'), while McIlroy memorably threw his 3 iron into a pond at the WGC-Cadillac Championship. But Spieth seems to recover faster. His bounceback rate — a statistic that shows the percent of holes completed over par followed immediately by a hole completed under par — is 28.25 percent, fifth on the PGA Tour. McIlroy is at 13.75 percent.

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"We've seen it in the majors, he comes back with a round or two that you're just like, man, you think he's out of it, and all of a sudden he surfaces again. So he has an ability to just get the ball in the hole."

Advantage: Spieth

Head to head

 Spieth took the No. 1 spot in the World Golf Rankings from McIlroy after the PGA Championship, and the two have toggled between Nos. 1 and 2 ever since, with McIlroy reclaiming the top spot ahead of the BMW Championship. Both are in good position to win the FedEx Cup, with Spieth No. 2 in the rankings behind Day and McIlroy No. 17 despite skipping the first event.

This appears to be a friendly rivalry for now, even with Spieth joking, "No, we hate each other, it's very challenging to talk to him," after being paired with McIlroy at the PGA Championship.

"I've been friends with Rory since maybe middle to end of the first year that I was out here, when we first played together and whatnot," Spieth said. "Obviously have a lot of respect. His game is extremely exciting. Watching him drive the golf ball is just inspirational. It's unbelievable when he hits his driver good. I would argue there's nobody like it when he's hitting his driver good. And really the entirety of his game."

For now, McIlroy holds a wide lead in victories with 11 on the PGA Tour and 11 on the European Tour to Spieth's five PGA Tour wins. He also has four majors to Spieth's two. So who's the best?

"I mean, if you were to go by this year, you would have to say Jordan," McIlroy said at the PGA Championship. "I would say if you go over the last two years, I would say it's probably a toss up between Jordan and myself. That's a hard one."

John Borneman co-hosts a weekly golf podcast called Teeing Off! Find it on Twitter or Facebook...
Edwards, Schmidt, Weaver contribute to DePaul

By Nick Bullock
Pioneer Press

With the help of three local sophomores, the DePaul women's soccer team has remained in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America NCAA Division I National Poll all season.

After a tough, 3-1 loss to Nebraska on Sept. 6, the Blue Demons dropped to No. 24, but have ranked as high as No. 19.

One of the players leading the team to a 4-1-1 start this season is midfielder Lucy Edwards, a Lake Forest graduate. Edwards was one of seven players to score through the team's first six games. She collected her first collegiate goal on a header off a corner kick in the Blue Demons' 5-0 victory against Saint Francis on Aug. 30 in Chicago.

Also on the team are midfielder and forward Jessie Schmidt, a Maine South alumna, and midfielder Jessica Weaver, from New Trier. Weaver played in each of the team's first six games, recording six shots and two shots on goal. Schmidt played in three games.

Cramsie sparks Washington defense

Billy Cramsie, from Lyons, was all over the field for the Washington (Mo.) football team in its 45-24 season-opening victory against Carnegie Melon on Sept. 5 in St. Louis. The junior linebacker recorded eight total tackles, including four solo tackles.

Senior linebacker and Lake Forest Academy alumnus Matt Goad had a solo tackle and Lake Zurich graduate Jerry Bauer started at left tackle for the Bears. Chris Lannan, a sophomore linebacker from Vernon Hills, had four tackles. Barrington's Brock Workman, a junior offensive lineman, Stevenson's Jonathan Way, a senior defensive back, Highland Park's Ross Chukerman, a senior defensive lineman, and St. Joseph's Chris Frederickson, a defensive lineman, also played in the game. Freshman defensive lineman Nick Athenson, a Lake Forest graduate, is also on the team.

Shipp has Irish off to fast start

A pair of north suburban athletes led the way for the Notre Dame men's soccer team in its 4-0 win against Alabama-Birmingham on Sept. 6 in Notre Dame, Ind.

Senior defender Michael Shipp, a Lake Forest graduate, opened up the scoring with his first career goal in the game's 20th minute. Sophomore forward Jeffrey Farina, from New Trier, then recorded the assist on the third Irish goal. Those were the first points for either player this season. Both Shipp and Farina started each of the team's first four games.

Have a suggestion for the College Roundup? Email Nick Bullock at bullockpioneerpress@gmail.com.

Nick Bullock is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.
Notre Dame gets its kicks against Benet

BY BOB HURST
Chicago Tribune

Notre Dame used the running of Jimmy Topping and the kicking and catching of Tim Simon to top Benet 29-14 in the East Suburban Catholic opener for both teams at Benedictine University in Lisle.

Simon capped the Dons' opening drive of the second half with a 20-yard field goal to give Notre Dame (3-0, 1-0) a 14-7 lead on Friday, Sept. 11. The Redwings (2-1, 0-1) answered with a 9-yard touchdown run by Marty Dosen to pull within 20-14, but Topping's 73-yard scoring run with 10:08 to play in the fourth put the Dons back in charge.

Topping rushed for 130 yards on 20 carries, and Simon kicked three field goals, including a 39-yarder. Simon also caught seven passes from Tyler Tsagalis for 138 yards and a touchdown.

Notre Dame's defense came up big too, led by Michael Valdez's two interceptions and a fumble recovery.

Starting in Benet's territory on three of its final four possessions of the first half, Notre Dame took a 17-7 lead at the break.

The Dons took a 14-7 lead on a 2-yard run by Topping with 5:20 left in the second quarter.

Benet scored first, on a 14-yard pass from Jack Sznajder to Karl Schmidt. Tsagalis and Simon answered only 48 seconds later with a 65-yard scoring pass, and later in the half, Simon's first field goal made it 17-7.

Bob Hurst is a freelance reporter for the Chicago Tribune.
Wade runs for 380 yards in Niles North win

BY ERIC VAN DRIL

Niles North senior Barrington Wade torched Niles West for 380 rushing yards in a performance that won't soon be forgotten.

Wade did it in just 25 carries, an average of 15.2 yards per carry, on Sept. 12. The Iowa commit scored four times in the game, including on a 17-yard screen pass in the second quarter of Niles North's 52-27 home victory in Skokie.

“He's a Division I back for a reason,” Niles West coach Scott Baum said. “I wish he was playing for Iowa today.”

Wade's individual performance will live on in Niles North's record book alongside 2009 graduate Terry Turner's one-man show against Niles West in 2008. Turner had 527 all-purpose yards in a 64-63 victory over the Wolves on Sept. 12, 2008, including 395 rushing yards on 37 carries.

Wade's 380 rushing yards are the second most in school history. Although it will be Wade's name in Niles North's record book, the Vikings' offensive line - junior Edgar Gomez at left tackle, senior Gelson Preza at left guard, junior Elmir Nikezic at center, sophomore Michael Pimentel at right guard and junior Dylan Ramirez at right tackle - was also exceptional against Niles West.

Both Wade and Niles North coach Mark Egofske credited the linemen after the game.

“They did great,” Wade said.

Wade's mentality when running the ball, he added, is to look for the hole, and then hit it as hard as he can.

“We all work together to give him a gap,” Gomez said. If he gets one, “he's going. He's going to go to the house.”

Wade had touchdown runs of 68, 41 and 83 yards against Niles West. His 68-yard scamper came on the second play from scrimmage, on a read-option that he ran to the left. Niles North senior quarterback Markhus Taylor read the defense, handed him the ball and the Vikings opened a hole.

Wade was gone in a flash. That was only the first haymaker Wade and Niles North's offensive line delivered to the Wolves (1-2).

The Vikings (2-1) led 24-7 at halftime. After Niles North senior safety Romario Gayle blocked a punt, Wade dashed 41 yards to the end zone on the first play of the drive to put the Vikings ahead 31-7.

Niles West made it 31-13 with 3:06 left in the third quarter, but Niles North's offensive line created a hole on the first play of the ensuing drive.

Wade did the rest, racing 83 yards to the end zone as the Vikings watched him run further and further away from the Niles West defense.

That sight, in the words of Pimentel, is the “best feeling in the world.”

Notes

- Wade and senior running back/wide receiver Craig “Dutch” Dawkins figured to form one of the state's most potent one-two punches this year, but Egofske said Dawkins' absence “definitely made me play harder,” Wade said. “Because I love him.”

- Taylor finished with nine carries for 37 yards. He was 6-for-10 passing for 101 yards and two touchdowns. One of those touchdowns was to junior Jordan La-Belle, who caught four passes for 80 yards. Sophomore Bruno Prosper-Kanan had 10 carries for 63 yards.

- Niles North senior Richard Azunna's lone carry resulted in a 58-yard touchdown.

- Niles West senior Yaniv Shields rushed 15 times for 108 yards and a touchdown. Sophomore Davion Lewis had six carries for 35 yards and two touchdowns. Junior quarterback Johnny Pabst picked up 43 yards on 24 carries. He scored one rushing touchdown, and was 24-of-50 passing for 211 yards.

- Niles West junior Matt Galanopoulos caught eight passes for 63 yards. Matt Metz, who's also a junior, finished with seven receptions for 70 yards.

- Niles North plays at Maine South in Week 4, while Niles West plays host to Deerfield. Both games are scheduled to kick off at 7 p.m. on Sept. 18.

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter: @VanDrilSports
Fourth-down stop swings game in favor of Vikings

BY ERIC VAN DRIL
Pioneer Press

In a game that will be remembered for the 380 rushing yards amassed by Niles North's Barrington Wade, the key stretch of Niles West's 52-27 loss were the final minutes of the second quarter and the beginning of the third.

Niles West took over near midfield trailing 21-7 in the second quarter, with an opportunity to turn the momentum in the Skokie Skirmish on Sept. 12. A touchdown before the half would make it a one-score game, and the Wolves would receive the ball to start the third quarter with a chance to tie the game.

Niles West's drive began with junior quarterback Johnny Pabst rushing the ball effectively. He started with a 6-yard gain, then picked up 4 yards. A 13-yard scamper followed.

"We were moving," Niles West coach Scott Baum said.

On first down, Pabst completed a pass for 5 yards. His attempt on second down fell incomplete, and then he found junior Greg Leftakes near the sideline on third. Leftakes took a big hit, but held on to the ball to make it fourth-and-1 at the 23.

Niles West went for it. The Wolves got their play quickly and lined up. Pabst received the snap in the shotgun formation. He followed his running back to the right, but was stopped for no gain.

"That was the big one," Baum said. "[It] killed us."

Niles North took over with just under two minutes remaining in the second quarter. Early in the drive, Markhus Taylor found Jordan LaBelle with a screen pass. LaBelle caught the ball on the right side of the field, then made a dynamic, cross-field run in which he picked up 57 yards and was tackled at the Wolves' 19-yard line.

The Vikings had to settle for a field goal, however. After Taylor had two would-be touchdown passes dropped in the end zone. Senior Matt Naranjo made a 36-yard field goal to put the Vikings ahead 24-7.

Niles West's high-powered offense - it scored 41 points in Week 1, and 50 points in Week 2 - still seemed to have a chance to rally the Wolves, but it likely needed to score on the first drive of the second half.

It couldn't, however. Niles West's drive stalled, and Niles North senior Romario Gayle and Wade effectively put an end to the game.

Gayle blocked the punt on fourth down, giving Niles North great field position at the Wolves' 41. Wade received a handoff on the first play of the drive, and jetted 41 yards up the middle to score with 10:03 remaining in the third quarter.

Wade's touchdown made it 31-7. Niles West's offense played better in the third and fourth quarters, including on a drive that ended with senior running back/safety Yaniv Shields (15 rushes, 108 yards) scoring on a 7-yard touchdown run with 3:06 remaining in the third.

Shields made it 38-13, but Wade responded with an 83-yard scoring dash on the first play of the following drive. Wade, with Naranjo's extra point, put Niles North ahead 45-13 and ended any comeback hopes the Wolves still had.

"You don't have any momentum," Shields said of the impact of Wade's long runs. "When he scores 80 yards right away, that's just a killer."

Eric Van Dril is a freelance reporter for Pioneer Press.

Twitter: @VanDrilSports
A young man’s game

Led by Jordan Spieth and Rory McIlroy (and with cameos from the likes of Jason Day and Rickie Fowler), golf’s new wave makes its way to Lake Forest for the BMW Championship. Inside
Who will be named Athlete of the Month?

After noon on Thursday, head over to chicagotribune.com/athletes to find out who won in your zone, and stay tuned for a feature on your winner next week! Thank you for voting!

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